

BAY AREA REPORTER

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The Rating Game. Taking a cue from those naughty rascals at the SFPD, men on a Castro Street stoop rate passers-by. Just a few more numbers to watch. (Photo: Rink)

Los Angeles

AIDS Accident Helps Scientists

Evidence Mounts That HTLV-III Is the Cause of Immune Disorder

by Brian Jones

Another piece of the AIDS puzzle is falling into place. Evidence from a tragic accident in Los Angeles has provided scientists with more proof that they have found the virus which causes AIDS. Confirmation of the findings came last month from the federal Centers for Disease Control and from AIDS researchers in France.

Meanwhile, the federal government is moving quickly to mass-produce a blood test for the virus — Human T-Cell Leukemia Virus III (HTLV-III). The Department of Health and Human Services has issued licenses to five pharmaceutical

houses, which are already growing the HTLV-III virus and exploring ways to detect the virus in the human bloodstream.

The likelihood that HTLV-III is the cause of AIDS was greatly boosted by investigation

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Parade Pucker

Kiss Brings Hassle For City's Gay Cop

by Allen White

Gay San Francisco Police officer Paul Seidler has been accused of unofficerlike conduct in a complaint filed with the department's Internal Affairs department. The charges stem from his being videotaped kissing another man at this year's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade. The tape was subsequently aired by KTVU, Channel 2 in Oakland.

Paul Seidler is the liaison to the Gay community in the San Francisco Police Department. He has held that post in the community relations department of the police force since January 1981. Seidler has been a police officer for 17 years.

Officer Seidler said he will protest the charge because he believes it is discriminatory. He said there are laws against discrimination and believes he can win against these charges. The complaint was evidently filed by other officers who believed the television shot was a discredit to the police force.

Seidler said he remembers seeing a front page picture in the *San Francisco Chronicle* about three years ago of a police officer kissing a woman. He reasons, and on possibly solid legal ground, that in San Francisco it is discriminatory to bring action solely on the basis of a kiss.

Seidler has received commendation throughout the United States and Canada for his work at bridging the gap that has existed in the past between the police and the Gay community. In San Francisco there are dozens of Lesbians and Gay policemen. Seidler has been credited with building a strong relationship between police and Gays.



Officer Paul Seidler (Photo: Rink)

He currently works on a project called the Godfather fund, which is providing needed help to many patients at the AIDS ward at San Francisco General Hospital. He has also advised police departments in other cities on how to improve relationships with their Gay constituents.

Should Officer Seidler be found guilty on the charges as they are currently presented, he could be suspended from the San Francisco Police Department.



Community Liaison. Officer Paul Seidler (L.) chats with a Sunday sailor at a Gay solree. Seidler's job is to ease relations between the cops and the Gay community. (Photo: Rink)

Where's the Bucks?

Berkeley Passes Its 'Intent' for Domestic Partner Benefits

But Lack of Funds Means It Will Be Years Before Workers' Partners Get Benefits

by John Wetzl

Would-be domestic partners will probably have to wait at least two years for job benefits from the city of Berkeley. That was the result of a heated city council meeting last week when the council passed 5-1, with 3 abstentions, its "intent" to support domestic partners benefits. But, citing financial reasons, the majority on the council blocked attempts to put its money where its policy is.

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AIDS Accident Helps Scientists

(Continued from page 1)

into the Los Angeles case. The case is the only clear-cut human model of AIDS transmission where all of the variables are known.

It began in November 1982 when a woman entered Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles for a hysterectomy. During surgery, she received a transfusion of two units of packed red-blood cells.

Two weeks later, the woman had what one doctor called "a viral incident marked by fever and sweats." Two months later, one of the two people who donated the blood used in the woman's surgery fell ill.

The donor, a 24-year-old Gay man, promptly was diagnosed with pneumocystis carinii pneumonia — one of the opportunistic infections associated with AIDS. Doctors immediately began tracing his blood donation.

When they traced the donation to the woman who had been transfused with the Gay man's blood, tests were done. Although she reported feeling healthy, her white blood cell counts were abnormal and already showed signs of the topsy-turvy disorder that characterizes AIDS.

One year after receiving the blood transfusion, the woman was diagnosed with pneumocystis carinii pneumonia. She was treated and today has regained some of her health.

Until last month, the evidence linking the Gay donor and the woman who had received the blood was only circumstantial. She did not fit any of the known risk groups: she was not sexually active and did not use drugs.

Direct evidence was found last month. Samples of the Gay man's blood, stored since the time of the transfusion, were tested. So were samples of the woman's blood.

Both were infected with Lymphadenopathy-associated Virus (LAV), a virus which most researchers believe is the same as HTLV-III. (The difference: LAV was discovered in a French laboratory, independently of the American work which yielded HTLV-III; in the current case,

the test for LAV was used.)

"This lends more weight to the argument that it is the AIDS agent," said Dr. Shirley Fannin, head of the Los Angeles communicable disease program. Said Dr. Dean Echenberg, the head of the San Francisco bureau of communicable disease, "We are becoming more and more certain about the likelihood that LAV is the AIDS agent."

Confirmation of HTLV-III or LAV as the AIDS agent has been stymied by the virus' predisposition for human hosts. To confirm that a virus is the cause of a particular disease, the virus must be introduced into a laboratory animal, and the experiment subject must develop the disease.

So far, despite efforts here and abroad, such a disease transmission has never been successfully accomplished. There are indeed laboratory animals with AIDS, including macaque monkeys at the University of California - Davis. But their case confuses rather than clarifies the AIDS mystery; the virus believed to cause their "Simian AIDS" is similar to — but not the same as — the HTLV-III and LAV viruses.

"I am sure, right now, somebody is trying to infect some type of lab animal with the suspected AIDS agent," Fannin said. "But we cannot accomplish this successfully if the virus is specific to humans."

Human experimentation is out of the question. That is why the Los Angeles accident is both tragic and hopeful. "This is the first case where we have ever been able to follow the transmission almost from the beginning — and we would prefer to never see another one," Fannin said. "But it is something very important, the experiment in nature. The earlier you begin your study, the more you can find out."

"These are the kind of link-ups you are looking for, and this just happens to be the kind of case we can follow," Fannin said.

Fannin and Echenberg agreed that the Los Angeles case, and tests on blood samples

of hundreds of Gay men, mutually reinforce each other — and point to HTLV-III as the likely AIDS virus.

Recent studies of Gay men's blood donated for Hepatitis-B studies in 1979 and 1980 showed that most had the antibody for HTLV-III in their blood. (Such a finding does not mean that the subjects of the study were carrying the virus; rather, that they had, at some time, been exposed to the virus. A test has not yet been developed to reliably identify traces of the virus itself in the human bloodstream.)

"The results of that test were very interesting, but really, all they told us was the predictable," Fannin said. "I have long believed that there is a whole lot more to infection out there, but that this isn't necessarily anything to panic about. All of us in infection know of very few infections where everyone who gets the disease dies — there is usually a spectrum of disease."

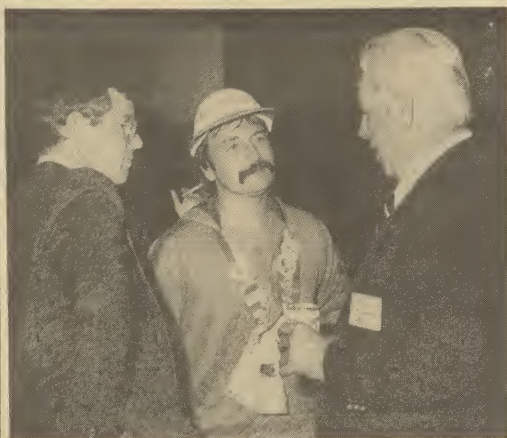
"Research in to what does this all mean is important, but we have to be very careful not to over-interpret. Maybe we'll find lots of people with the antigen (virus). So what? They may never get AIDS," Fannin said.

Both Fannin and Echenberg said the real research on how to prevent — and possibly reverse — AIDS is just now beginning.

"This is when most of the money is going to be necessary — now that we know where to focus our research. We're just really starting. Now, we are capable of getting better answers, but you get those only through lots of very expensive research," Fannin said. Echenberg said, "It's no time to relax. We need research money more than ever, and we need to continue our campaign on public education and prevention more than ever."

Congress has appropriated about \$48 million this year for AIDS research. Recent developments prompted the assistant secretary of health, Dr. Edward Brandt, Jr., to request another \$20 million immediately for new AIDS research. But Brandt's request, dated May 25, has gone no further than Health and Human Services Secretary Margaret Heckler — who has yet to act on the proposal.

B. Jones



Labor and Gays. Tim Twomey (r.), president of local labor council, talks with Gay union activist Howard Wallace (l.) and Sal Rosselli (c.), a union business agent and the chief of the Alice Democrats. (Photo: Rink)

Convention Powwow

National Labor Leaders Endorse Gay Agenda

Gays in Unions are Emerging from the Workplace Closet

by George Mendenhall

"Every day it is a joy to get up and go to work as an up-front Gay labor unionist," Bill Olwell told a group honoring national union leaders last week. He was one of those leaders attending a reception sponsored by the Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance during the Democratic Convention. Olwell is vice president of the 1.3 million-member United Food and Commercial Workers.

"I am here with my long-suffering lover of 17 years," the activist joked. "You have no idea what an inspiration it is for me to see a room full of Lesbians and Gay people in the labor movement. It is important that we get inside and then keep the door open for others who are also disenfranchised."

Answering a question about the acceptance of Gay people in unions, Olwell said, "I am accepted as an up-front Gay person. Now the AFL-CIO has spoken out nationally for our rights. There are still the wisecracks sometimes, but those people are increasingly a minority. We have educating to do. You have to convince them that 'Gay' is not just sex and then they will come around."

Bill Lucy, secretary-treasurer of the national American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, said his 1.3 million members increasingly recognize the rights of Gay people. He praised Olwell as "one of the most respected legislative representatives in the nation's capital."

A long-time local demonstrator for Gay rights told the crowd at the Department Store Workers union hall, "I like to hear you cheer my presence in your marches and parades because that cheer is for my union and our support of your efforts. Unions are obligated to speak out for all people's concerns." The speaker was Charles Lamb, president of the local Hotel and Restaurant Workers, and vice president of the California Labor Federation.

The national coordinator of the AFL-CIO Coors Beer Boycott, David Sickler, told the assembled he was concerned by financial contributions being offered to the Gay community here and in Los Angeles.

"Coors continues to try to buy off the Gay community with small sums of money while they give a great deal more to Jerry Falwell and his friends — people who would destroy your life," Sickler said. "Unfortunately,

there are some Gay activists and Gay businessmen who will accept this money — placing the dollar ahead of principle."

The crowd also included two additional labor leaders — Tim Twomey, president of San Francisco Labor Council and vice president of the Service Employees International Union; and David Meggyesy, an official of the National Football League's AFL-CIO Players Association.

Twomey thanked those present for their support in recent union efforts and said he could not understand the religious fundamentalists' attack on Gay people: "If that is religion, I would rather be a pagan."

Among the guests were several up-front Gay activists who support Labor — Sal Rosselli, president of the Toklas Democrats and a union business agent; Gary Miller, chair of the Sacramento Democratic Central Committee; John Laird, mayor of Santa Cruz; Vic Basile, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund; Linda Post, chair of the S.F. Democratic Central Committee; Jack Trujillo, Northern California Democratic Party official; and Tom Chorlton, executive director of the national Association of Lesbian/Gay Democratic Clubs.

Labor Alliance Backs Strike at Macy's

The Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance has announced that it supports the striking workers at Macy's in downtown San Francisco and denounces the efforts of Emporium-Capwell to counter the Retail Clerks Union, Local 1100.

The alliance is calling for a boycott of Macy's and the Emporium by the Lesbian and Gay community. Lesbian and Gay consumers are urged to communicate their displeasure to the management of the two large department stores.

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NOW Chief Cheers Gay Rights Advances

Milk Activist Craig Dumped as Leader of National Group

by George Mendenhall

"Happy days are here again," Judy Goldsmith told 150 cheering Lesbian/Gay activists at a Castro area meeting here during the Democratic Convention. Goldsmith is the president of the National Organization for Women (NOW). She praised the assembled, officials from 46 Gay Democratic clubs and caucuses from across the country, calling their work "extraordinary."

Goldsmith declared, "The Lesbian/Gay rights dialogue cannot be ignored because it is of profound importance in the human rights struggle in this country. It is an issue that addresses a major constituency that cannot be ignored — that must not be ignored."

The noted feminist called the political gains made by Gay people in the past year "really dramatic." She said they include the Democratic presidential candidates accepting Gay rights, the expansion of Lesbian/Gay Democratic clubs, the 1984 Democratic platform on Lesbian/Gay rights — "the strongest we have ever had" — and the mandatory inclusion of Gay people in the party machinery brought about by party Rules changes.

Looking to the future, Goldsmith urged, "We look forward to working with you as we have in the past. This is an alliance that is going to be forged this year — a bond that is based on our mutual understanding that our destinies are inseparable."

of us who care about human rights . . . including Lesbian and Gay rights." Goldsmith said that there is "more to lose than the Supreme Court if the Right Wing takes over for the next four years."

Goldsmith was addressing the National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs, a Washington, DC-based group involved in educational and lobbying activities. During its business session the association voted to deny membership to politically nonpartisan groups, and to endorse the needs of people with AIDS. Virginia Apuzzo, Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force, spoke of the need to get out the vote.

Tom Chorlton, full-time Executive Director of the associ-

ficials over the past year.

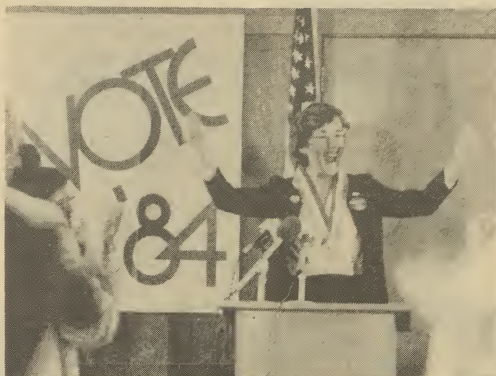
The association is currently involved in stimulating voter registration and fundraising advertising on Lesbian and Gay issues. It is urging door-to-door canvassing to "get out the vote" in November and the development of educational materials on the Democrats' position on Lesbian and Gay rights.

ELECTION CONTROVERSY

In a heated election of officers, two new national co-chairs were elected for the 1984-1985 term. They are Lynn Mattingly of Miami and Jack Trujillo, local Democratic Party official. Defeated were the two incumbents, Gwenn Craig, local Milk club activist, and Peter Vogel of New York City.

that she has had difficulty reaching Chorlton because "he leaves his answering machine on much of the time." After Craig's defeat, Chorlton said he was pleased and would gladly serve another term if chosen.

Craig and Vogel, defeated in the association election, attended a meeting of the Lesbian/Gay Democratic Delegates Caucus after the association adjourned — and were chosen to serve as its co-chairs.



NOW President Judy Goldsmith gives the thumbs-up as Lesbian and Gay politicians applaud her. (Photo: Rink)

The national spokesperson for the feminist movement expressed her elation that Geraldine Ferraro was chosen as a vice presidential candidate. She said it was essential that candidate Walter Mondale be elected because President Reagan is "an eminent threat to us all — to all

ation, explained that his group had met many times with the Democratic presidential aspirants to encourage their support of Lesbian and Gay rights. Chorlton has mailed information about the candidates and other national political developments to the media and club of-



Gwenn Craig (Photo: Rink)

Executive Director Chorlton, who is appointed by a group of trustees, told this reporter and others before the vote was taken that he would not continue in his position if Craig was re-elected. He said, "Gwenn has done nothing to help the organization in the past year." Craig countered

People With AIDS Form National Group

Twenty-eight people who have Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and AIDS-related conditions, have organized the National Association of People With AIDS (NAPWA). Bobbi Campbell, a founding member of NAPWA, made the announcement at the First International Lesbian and Gay Health Conference in New York City.

NAPWA will provide peer support, educational materials, referrals, risk reduction materials, health advocacy, and socialization for people with AIDS, by people with AIDS. NAPWA is open to all people with AIDS and AIDS-related conditions. NAPWA projects include a newsletter, 800 number hotline, and a speaker's bureau.

Noting that the organization was the first of its kind in the country, Campbell said that NAPWA would also work cooperatively with AIDS organizations and government agencies to raise funds and to improve service provision to people with AIDS and AIDS-related conditions.

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HEADLINES

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One Juror Short of a Win

Jury Deadlocks 2nd Time in Raines Discrimination Case

Judge Rules City Gay-Rights Ordinance Is Unconstitutional

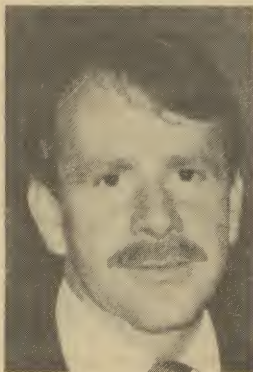
by George Mendenhall

The second attempt of former War Memorial Arts Center director Michael Raines to prove he was discriminated against because he is Gay has failed. Raines was fired by the center's board in 1982. He was asking \$1 million in damages. A jury again split 8-4 — in Raines' favor — with 9 votes needed for conviction. Attorney Matt Coles, who with attorney Mary Dunlap represented Raines, said important rulings by Superior Judge William Mullins worked against Raines:

The judge ruled that the city nondiscrimination ordinance is unconstitutional because the state legislature has taken over the entire area of employment discrimination, voiding all local laws on the subject. Due to the veto of AB-1, the state jobs discrimination bill, there is no state law that prohibits discrimination against Gay people in employment.

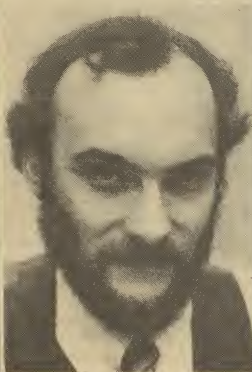
The ruling is not binding on future discrimination cases, unless a general ruling is made to that effect in an appeals court. This is the second Raines trial to have an 8-4 jury with the majority favoring Raines. A third trial will be pressed by Raines' attorneys, Matt Coles and Mary Dunlap.

Mullins told the jury it had to agree that at least 3 of the 11 trustees who fired Raines individually discriminated against him. Considerable evidence was presented to the jury to indicate that the trustees were strongly influenced by one person —



Michael Raines (Photo: Rink) trustee Philip Boone.

Coles said, "It has always been our position that if Philip Boone was motivated by homophobia and he was the leader of the board and they followed his lead, then Raines was discriminated against by the board." All



Matt Coles, Raines' attorney. (Photo: Rink)

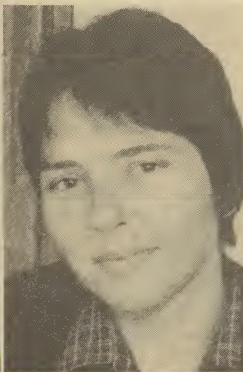
11 jurors agreed that Boone had discriminated and eight agreed that one other had discriminated but could not agree on a third person. Evidence in the trial revealed homophobic attitudes by at least four trustees.

Mullins also ruled that Raines would not be permitted to claim invasion of privacy. Raines

claimed it was improper for employees to inquire into the private lives of prospective employees. Victor Wong, local theatrical entrepreneur, had testified that Boone had called him and asked if Raines was Gay. (Wong declined to respond to Boone.)

Coles talked to the jurors for three hours after their 8-4 decision and came away convinced that Raines would have won his case without Mullins' three rulings. He said, "I am encouraged because the jurors said they first thought they had to have black-and-white evidence but they realized that discrimination is more subtle. That you look for attitude and certain language. I have been trying to tell jurors that for years and it seemed to be getting across to these jurors."

One of the problems Coles and Dunlap faced in this, and in



Mary Dunlap, Raines' attorney. (Photo: Rink)

Raines' earlier trial one year ago, is that the city ordinance, which Coles wrote, specifically says that discrimination based on sexual orientation is proven if it is "in whole or part" while the state law only vaguely bars all discrimination. If Assemblyman Art Agnos' AB-1 had not been vetoed, there would have been specific state language bar-

ring discrimination against Gay people. Both attorneys agree that eventually the matter of constitutionality will have to be resolved by a higher court.

Raines served for 14 months as Arts Center director in 1981-82. The trustees board never criticized Raines until a concert featuring Gay entertainer Sylvester appeared at the Opera House. Raines scheduled the performance, as part of his job, and some trustees let him know they were unhappy with the type of entertainment. The facility normally has opera and ballet.

Trustee Philip Boone began to ask questions about Raines' sexual orientation and made negative comments about Gay people. He said he wanted a "family man" in the position. Boone was influential in getting a grant of \$30,000 from a foundation to begin a search for a new director of "national stature." Raines was moved aside quickly by an outside search firm and was not seriously considered for the position, which was to be "new" in that the Davies Hall building would be included in the director's duties.

Testimony revealed that knowledge that Raines was Gay was discussed — sometimes negatively — by some trustees, although Raines never was public about his sexual orientation.

Raines' dismissal in late 1982 startled him, as he had never received any negative evaluation of his work, nor was he criticized by trustees — until the Sylvester concert. Rather than be replaced by a person of "national stature," the new director chosen was George Matson — an assistant theater manager from San Diego. When Matson quit, he was replaced by Thelma Shelley — the widow of the late John Shelley, former mayor of San Francisco.

Raines' attorneys will ask the state Court of Appeals to reverse Judge Mullins' rulings before they ask the Superior Court to schedule a third trial. ■

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Christian Soldiers' Fire

Houston Churches Try to Void New Rights Law

Petitions Passed Pew-to-Pew; Signatures Force Referendum

Catholic officials, five city council members and 150 churches are working together in Houston to scratch this city's new Gay employment rights bill from the books. The measure was passed in June by a bare 8-7 vote as 400 demonstrators filled the council chambers, shouting that Houston would become a "sin city of Sodom and Gomorrah," and singing "Onward, Christian Soldiers."

Bishop John Morkovsky personally handed over petitions to force a referendum on the measure last week. He claimed that there were 60,000 signatures, three times the number required, which were garnered in churches over a three-week period. Houston newspapers have carried two full-page ads, costing \$15,000, to announce the anti-Gay effort led by Council member John Goodner.

Houston has the largest Gay population in the South, with more than one hundred Gay businesses — gymsnasiums, bars, boutiques, restaurants and a very active political community. The city's Westheimer Road and Montrose section rival San Francisco's Castro and Folsom areas. The city's mayor has been openly supportive of Gay rights.

Local Gay activists, organizing under a "Citizens for a United Houston" banner, have pledged to raise \$300,000 to fight the referendum. They will attempt to mount a national campaign to rival the one

against Anita Bryant's campaign in 1977 in Dade County, Florida, when a similar amount was raised.

Houston Councilwoman Eleanor Tinsley believes it will take that much money because the well-financed Catholic and fundamentalist church effort "has become a dangerous outpouring of hatred" that must be stopped.

"We have to think about Houston's image," the anti-Gay coordinator of the referendum drive countered. "People are concerned that we not reinforce this type of behavior through city law."

The campaign against Houston's jobs ordinance is similar to the one organized against California bill AB-1 last year. The legislation is a simple prohibition of employment discrimination based on sexual orientation, but the anti-Gay campaign emphasizes that it is an endorsement of the Lesbian/Gay lifestyle. ■

Business Group Gives \$9,000 in Grants

Seven nonprofit community organizations which serve Lesbians and Gay men have received a total of \$9,000 from The GGBA Foundation in their second quarter granting cycle.

The Foundation, a private philanthropic group founded by the Golden Gate Business Association, awards grants four times annually to those local groups which provide significant services to the Lesbian and Gay community. Organizations qualifying for support are in the categories of social services, culture, education, and scientific research.

The recent grantees include: \$1000 to "Tools for Change" of the Shanti Project for a visualization health project for people with AIDS; \$1,450 to the West Coast Lesbian Collections, an archives and library preserving Lesbian history, for the development and printing of an organizational logo and informational brochure; \$1,500 to Operation Concern as general support for a wide range of mental health counseling services; \$1,500 to WOMAN, Inc., an organization serving the needs of Bay Area battered women, to expand an outreach program and services for Lesbians; \$1,050 to Marin AIDS Support Network for staff and volunteer orientation and training; \$1,000 to Theatre Rhinoceros for the production of "Artists Respond to AIDS," an inter-arts education project; and \$1,500 to the Human Rights Foundation for the printing and dissemination of *Demystifying Homosexuality*. ■

Homos at Home on the Range

Have You Ever Seen A Rodeo Drag Queen Chase Down and Milk a Wild Cow?

by Mike Hippler

Robert and John from Chicago didn't care that the announcer at the Ninth Annual National Reno Gay Rodeo didn't remember the names of the contestants some of the time, that few of those contestants could stay on a bull or rope a calf, or that attendance was down somewhat from years past. "This is the greatest thing we've ever seen," they said. "There are people here from all over the country, and everyone is so friendly. We're already making plans to come back next year."

By professional rodeo standards, the Reno Gay Rodeo may fall short, but not to its diehard fans like Robert and John or to contestants like Ron Jessor. "Sure, we take it seriously," said Jessor, 31, a part-time cowboy and full-time banker from Denver. "Most of us are amateurs, but the competition level is getting better every year, for lots of reasons."

One of these is the increasing number of opportunities for improvement. As rodeo becomes more and more popular in the Gay community, rodeos are springing up all over the country. There are now Gay rodeos in Denver and Houston as well as Reno, and soon there will be one in Southern California.

"There are lots of Gay people who grew up on farms and ranches," said Ron, "and rodeos like this give them the opportunity to do what they've always wanted to do. My family doesn't like it, however. They think I'm embarrassing them by being too public."

Ron's family aren't the only ones. Some Reno residents are tolerant. Hotel desk clerk Susan Komherce, a native of Nevada, said, "It doesn't bother me any. They've got a right to live just like anybody else does." But some are not. Local general contractor Dan Hansen, a member of the John Birch Society and the leader of Reno's Pro-Family Christian Coalition, remarked, "I think it's an abomination and a blight upon the community. It's not really the rodeo we're concerned with, it's the celebration of the homosexual community, which is trying to gain legitimacy and justification in a state where this is regarded as a felonious crime."

Said Hansen, "We regard the homosexual community as life-threatening to our freedom as a nation and to the health and safety of our families. They are a drain on the pocketbook of the community, a form of parasite upon any healthy civilization."

Although Hansen and the members of his group left town for the beaches of Lakes Tahoe and Pyramid rather than confront the invading homosexuals, others who are not opposed to Gay rights but who are opposed to rodeos turned out in force.



Whoa, There! Bringing calf to heel at the Reno Gay Rodeo. (Photo: Michael Kent)

Said Debra Young, a lesbian from Sacramento who was one of about 20 members of various animal rights groups protesting at the entrance to the Washoe County Fairgrounds, "I feel angry. People who demand rights have to learn to extend them. I don't think you can ignore animals. They're feeling beings, too."

"A lot of people don't know what's involved in rodeo, but my hope is that at least a couple of them will think about it. I didn't really expect anyone not to go in, but hopefully I've helped to plant a few seeds by being here."

Nevertheless, thousands did go in, including Mr., Ms., and Miss National Reno Gay Rodeo — Bobby Conway, Digit, and Miss Nikki of Fresno, Sacramento, and Fresno, respectively. Rose Maddox, the singer who was the first woman ever inducted into Nashville's Country/Western Hall of Fame, was the Grand Marshall.

Deana Kaye, another country/western singer, performed on the fairgrounds outside, along with several square dancing, clogging, and Native Indian dance groups.

At the accompanying Country Festival, vendors sold license plates reading (however inappropriately), "2-Gether 4-Ever, Mike and Debbie," while sunburned men and women in cowboy and cowgirl hats lined up to

get their ears pierced and their arms tattooed.

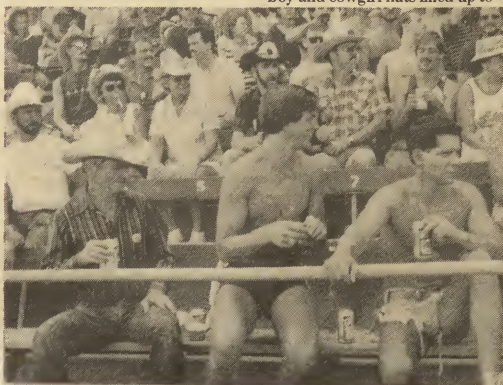
"Dunk a Dyke, Sink a Sis-sie," shouted the hawker at the Dunk Tank, while inside the rodeo drag queens chased wild cows, trying to milk them. ■



Flying Lasso. A twirling loop of rope flies toward its target. (Photo: Michael Kent)



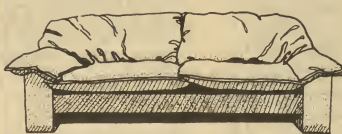
It Was So Hot. All a cowpoke could do was lean back and enjoy the action. (Photo: Michael Kent)



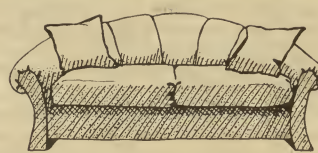
Lots to See at the Rodeo. Some watched the action, some watched the crowd, and some watched the watchers in Reno. (Photo: Michael Kent)

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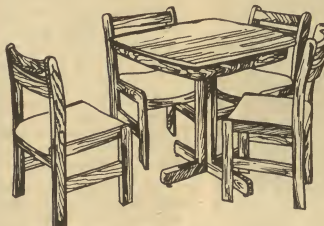
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VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

An Untimely Delay

America is a place where dramas unfold, reach a crisis, and are solved happily in 56 minutes, minus commercial breaks. Too often we embrace false hope or overly simple approaches to complex, lingering problems.

That is the threat which faces us today, as the AIDS epidemic enters its fourth year. There has been important news from the laboratory, hyped into encouragement from Washington. There may be grounds for cautious optimism, but a similar case may be made for dread. A wiser course would be to withhold all conclusions for now, and continue on the course we have set: vigorous federal research and strong promotion of low-risk sex.

The hype from Washington comes from the office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services, Margaret Heckler. Heckler happily announced in April that the "probable cause of AIDS" had been discovered. Last week, Heckler was happily announcing mass-production of a "blood test for AIDS."

Not so fast. Politics may have prematurely announced the "light at the end of the tunnel" on AIDS — but Science remains unconvinced. It's like Henry Kissinger seeing the light at the end of the tunnel in Vietnam. Today, scientists and medical researchers are on the front lines. And they are not nearly so self-assured as Secretary Heckler.

Why, then, the raising of false hopes? This is an election year. The first duty of any cabinet officer, of which Mrs. Heckler is one, is to take the heat off the boss. If Mrs. Heckler can successfully convince America that the AIDS epidemic is as good as whipped — then criticism of Ronald Reagan's health policy will calm down.

If anything, latest developments should prompt a storm of Gay criticism of Heckler and President Reagan.

Dr. Edward Brandt, the assistant secretary for health, on May 25 sent a confidential memo to Heckler (a copy of which was purloined by the Gay weekly *The Washington Blade*). The memo said \$20 million was needed immediately to augment this year's budget for AIDS research, which stands at \$48 million.

What happened to this urgent request? Nothing. After seven weeks, Brandt's "urgent" memo still sits on Heckler's desk. This inaction has prompted a letter from local Rep. Sala Burton, asking for an explanation of the delay, and urging haste.

Now that the HTLV-III virus has been isolated as the possible AIDS agent, the real work is just beginning. "We need research money now, more than ever — now that we have something to look at," says Dr. Dean Echenberg, the director of the city's Bureau of Communicable Diseases.

Buy why spend money when you can throw press releases at the public? Apparently, that's Heckler's thought. She seems to be cynically playing on our desperation and our hope.

We don't want hype, madame secretary. We want — we demand — additional tax dollars for new AIDS research. We want Brandt's memo heeded. Not next month, not after the election — and not when you get around to it. Now.

At the same time, we must continue our personal fight against the AIDS epidemic. That, too, is something we want to forget in our fear and our mourning. Let us keep our wits, and our hearts — and our libidos. Let us worry about sex less and enjoy it more. Avoid the exchange of body fluids. So far, it seems to be making big progress.

And in that thought lies the real encouragement.

Brian Jones

March Monitor Problems

★ I was one of the two Safety Monitor Police Liaisons for the National March for Lesbian and Gay Rights on Sunday, July 15. I have worked at many other events in the communities for several years now. The attitude of the organizers of and participants in these events towards safety monitors varies, ranging from sincere appreciation to downright hostility. I would have expected an intelligent attitude from the organizers of the march, but once again I was proved wrong.

Early in the march several monitors had to deal with five troublemakers. These people were running through the crowd, harassing the spectators, and even knocked down a 6-year-old child. The monitors asked the police for assistance, and the person responsible for hurting the child was cited by an officer. At this point the five disappeared and the monitors continued on with the march.

Later, at the rally site, one of the monitors involved with the earlier incident was approached by one of the five instigators of the trouble and personally threatened by him. At the same time he threatened the rest of her "monitor friends" and then disappeared into the crowd. This monitor, who is very experienced and not easily perturbed, was quite shaken by this threat. She and the other monitors involved earlier talked to me and I told them I would talk to the safety coordinators about this.

When I discussed this with the coordinators, we agreed to make an announcement from the stage because specific threats against the safety monitors were being made. We wanted all of the monitors to team up, not to walk through the crowd alone. At the same time, we wanted a general announcement made to the crowd to suggest that no one leave the rally site alone.

To this end, Dianne Christensen went to make the announcement. Right after she began, she was interrupted by Paul Boneberg, one of the coordinators of the march. After a lengthy dead-time on stage, Boneberg returned to the mike to make the announcement that all monitors should "report to their team leaders."

This stupid and weak "announcement" made the monitor staff look disorganized (monitors throughout the day reported to their team leaders). It also did not get the necessary message across. It seems that Boneberg and the stage crew took it upon themselves to decide that original announcement would have "agitated" the crowd, and therefore they did not want to use it.

CUAV (Community United Against Violence) had been contracted to provide safety for the march. CUAV not only had an obligation to try to keep the participants and spectators of the march safe, it had an obligation to the VOLUNTEERS who were the monitors. Paul Boneberg ignored the professional decision made by the staff of CUAV. In the future, if the advice of experienced safety personnel is asked and paid for, it ought to be used.

D. R. Kirby
Berkeley

Cop Capers

A copy of a letter to Mayor Dianne Feinstein:

For the second time in as many months, a group of police officers has disgraced our city. Last time, it was in the Rathskeller restaurant; this time it was immediately in front of the Moscone Center while the National Democratic Convention was in process.

ABC-TV (Channel 7) has film of the most recent incident, in which on-duty police officers sat beside the sidewalk and verbally harassed, heckled, and "rated" women who walked by, based upon their breast sizes. If you haven't yet seen this film, you should do so.

The humiliation the women endured can only be estimated and the fact that this cruelty was committed by our police officers only days after the first woman was selected as a vice-presidential candidate and in a

city known for its pro-ERA beliefs befuddles the mind.

I can think of no better example of "conduct unbecoming a police officer" than what is shown on this film. I certainly hope that the City will take immediate and drastic disciplinary action. No woman can feel secure in a city in which the police are allowed to behave in such a way. The police should protect, not harass.

The larger question, though, is exactly what is wrong with this police department's recruitment and training techniques? Why is it producing such large numbers of officers who obviously have no concept of right or wrong? Can we honestly expect women to join the SFPD if they must work in close contact with these types of males?

The fact that the Office of Citizens Complaints is literally swamped with complaints by citizens comes as no surprise to me. And, obviously the existence of the OCC is no deterrent to police misconduct.

Your prompt attention to the matter of police misconduct is needed, as evidenced by this most recent, disgusting display (on national television!) by "Our Finest."

R. C. Bryant
San Francisco

A Normal Day

★ Today was a normal day. I went to my new job and on my lunch break I ate at a Mexican restaurant with my friends. When I got off at 5, I went to a good friend's house and got high. The heatwave broke today.

Once home I put on the Cars and chatted with my roommate in my bedroom. We were talking about my new job. It was a normal day. It was just like the day before and the day before that. The heatwave broke today. My phone rang.

It was one of my best friends. Two days ago he was admitted to San Francisco General Hospital. He was calling to tell me he was dying. The heatwave broke today.

He had been told he has PCP (Pneumocystis Carinii Pneumonia). This time it hits home. Trying to stay in a positive state of mind is getting harder and harder. I'm so sick and tired of AIDS. I know it's not going to go away, and I'm not trying to blame anyone. Two days ago a neighbor told me his roommate just found out he was dying. Last week I found out someone I used to know was dead from KS.

I have a feeling it's not going to be too long before AIDS spreads to the heterosexual community. It's grossly out of hand. It seems every day I hear of another new victim, and if it's not another new victim, someone else is dead.

Tomorrow they will move my friend to the AIDS ward. I'll go to my job. Friday I will visit him. Life will go on. It was a normal day.

Gregory Carlisle

Sisters are Tired

★ I feel we have reached the point in which The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence are doing the Gay community a far greater disservice than service. The Falwell-Schlaflly exorcism is the latest and perhaps most harmful example, playing into the hands of the Moral Majority before the nation's mass media. In the past, the Sisters have been wonderful in such events as the softball game pitting them against the Gay Men's Chorus. Lately, with their increased involvement in politics, the coverage they receive is generally negative and usually destructive to the Gay community.

To put it simply, give it a rest, the act is tired.

Jim Cvitanich
San Francisco

B.A.R.

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LETTERS

Boom Boom Booster

★ So many find San Francisco's Sister Boom Boom (*Time*, July 16) "a symbol of tolerance gone haywire?" Such folk would do well to recall some recent examples of intolerance gone haywire: Jerry Falwell, Dan White, the Ku Klux Klan. When was the last time a drag queen publicly advocated bigotry, deprived you of your civil rights or threatened your life? No doubt about it, the boys in dresses get my vote.

Gerard Koskovich
Palo Alto

Not My Thing

★ While I probably would if called upon — like another American before, of another place and another time — "defend to the death" the right of the Sisters to roam the streets of San Francisco, I am getting nonetheless more and more concerned that, because of their seemingly endless visibility they somehow — whether they want to or not — represent me to the world at large. They've decided to do not. Furthermore, and perhaps more seriously, because of the aforementioned visibility, the impression persists, that somehow, insidiously not only are we "like them" but in fact are them. I, at least, decidedly am not. So, Honeys, go out and do your thing, but not mine.

Karli Bernstein
Oakland

Coors in the Side Pocket

★ Thank you, Gay San Francisco Pool Association, for accepting \$1,000 from the Adolph Coors Company — the business whose Board Chairman said Blacks "lack the intellectual capacity to succeed," the business that bankrolls our enemies — anti-Gay groups such as the Moral Majority and John Birch Society, the business that contributes money to ultra-right legislators who vote against civil rights for Gays, the business which is currently being boycotted nationwide by Blacks, Latinos, Gays, environmentalists, feminists, and locally by all the Gay political clubs. Could everyone else be wrong and you be right? Or are you simply opportunists who've been bought off?

Bob Hass
San Francisco

Let's Make a Deal

★ Okay, I'll make a deal. I won't cross the Macy's picket line if those attitude queens who work there promise to come down to earth and be nice.

Deal?

J.C. Cox
San Francisco

Falwell's Free Speech

★ It is Thursday afternoon and I am listening to reports of violence in the heart of our City. Words cannot express my disappointment, my fears and my concern for the message that these actions are communicating to millions of people via the media. The message appears that, in this most liberal and enlightened of cities, voices and opinions not adjudged "politically correct" are not welcome and, indeed, not invited.

My concern is for the right to speak and think freely. Though I detest the message brought to us by the Rev. Falwell — to the point that I am having to seriously reconsider my previously unflinching allegiance to the Republican Party — I fear the consequence of this thoughtless violence and violation of Constitutional liberty far more than I fear one bigot and his well-meaning followers.

Kevin W. Wadsworth, member (elect)
San Francisco Republican County Com.

Closing the Baths

★ Why letter writer Michael Talbert should take such exception to Falwell taking "credit for the attempt to close SF's Gay baths (July 12, *Bay Area Reporter*) is totally baffling to me.

Falwell was first to try to cash in on the growing AIDS hysteria by calling for the closing of all Gay baths. Harry Britt, ex-preacher and now a supervisor here in San Francisco was second. Nowhere else in America was Falwell's call heeded.

Why was it here? Wake up, fellas! Falwell's threats are less dangerous than the enemy within — the "Gay" stamp-out-sexers (S.O.S.) such as Britt. The Alice Club in its July 9 meeting finally caught on to his lies and treachery and overwhelmingly voted to condemn them.

Reed Vernon
San Francisco

Take Care of Our Own

★ In May, 38 new cases of AIDS were diagnosed in the Bay Area. The month before it was 33. The problem is still growing, and it's still deadly. Experts say we may have a vaccine to prevent AIDS in 3 to 6 years. A cure for those who already have AIDS is probably even further away.

Meanwhile, our brothers (sisters too) across the coun-

try, and right here are dying. Many are dying lonely, because most of their former friends have simply abandoned them. In some cases, lovers too. Some are dying hungry and homeless. And the living? How would you feel if, just by being at the wrong place at the wrong time you were an AIDS patient? Imagine wondering where all your friends went, how you'll pay your next month's rent, and what it's going to feel like to die. Wondering if you'll be alone when your time comes.

You hear some people say, "I'm sick of hearing about AIDS, it's hurting my business, and I cannot help with your AIDS Fundraisers." Lucky people — they don't have AIDS (yet). Their only worry is that if people think about AIDS, they may not go out, and spend money quite so often.

Thank God, not every businessman has this selfish attitude. Dozens of them have bent over backwards to help raise money to combat the single most serious problem that the Gay community has ever faced since it became a community. They realize that it is not only today's challenge, but tomorrow's too.

There has been wonderful cooperation not only from some businessmen, but also from a great many individuals in the community. To these people, I salute you. What wonderful human beings you are. What a credit to the Gay community — your community! You have just cause to feel proud of your contribution, whatever form it may have taken.

To everyone else, I'd like to suggest that we take a lesson from the Mormons. No Mormon goes hungry or has to sleep on a park bench or go without medical attention, a job, or loving, helpful hands and hearts. Why? Because Mormons take care of their own. All of them participate, not just a quarter or half of them. Everyone gets involved with their money, their talents, and their work.

Notice that I said Mormons take care of their own — they are not going to take care of us, they don't even like us, neither will any other section of society — except the Gay community itself. It's up to us because nobody else will bother. Any Gay man or woman who does not give something of themselves will cause something to remain undone, or double the load on someone else. Do we care?

Even if you can't spare a dime for AIDS, you certainly have talent that will help us take care of our own. Maybe it's only a sympathetic ear, or two hands to clean an apartment, a car to drive a patient to the doctor, a movie, etc. Maybe it's just the joy you'll give someone just to know you care!

There are three excellent places to offer your skills, talents, work, and/or money. They are The SF AIDS Foundation 863-4376, The Shanti Project 558-9644, and the SF AIDS Fund 441-6407.

The world is watching us. Now is the time for the greatest and closest unity the Gay community has ever known. Let's show them how we can take care of our own.

Printed in Los Angeles by Buck Rogers,
Revised for the Bay Area by Alan Selby

North Beach Rave

★ Just wanted to let your readers know about a great new restaurant/cabaret that is Gay-owned and is a welcome addition to this City's best restaurants that offer good food, fair prices, and a colorful crowd to watch while dining. The business is Mame's Palazzo, located on Bay Street, and I recently went there (after seeing an ad in the *Bay Area Reporter* with a friend for their Tuesday night "Meals & Movies" special. We had a wonderful time and were impressed with the quality and quantity of food (served family style) for only \$8.50 a person. Where else in San Francisco can you find a four-course meal and a movie for that price?

The only thing Mame's is currently missing is huge crowds. Maybe it's because our community is too lazy to travel to North Beach, or too willing to stick with favorite neighborhood restaurants. I hope not. Everyone I've taken to Mame's has loved the place (especially the campy Italian palace decor that looks like a Fellini movie set!) and has gone back. They also have a cabaret showroom that is one of the nicest in town — I recently saw Val Diamond do a knockout one-woman show there. I also like Mame's colorful mix of customers: Gay men, Lesbians, and non-Gay people who like a sophisticated restaurant with good entertainment.

I hope your readers will give this place a try; it deserves to be a big success.

Kim Cortright
San Francisco

Colorful Reporting

★ I want to thank the *Bay Area Reporter*, and its reporter, Dion Sanders, for its coverage of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission's public hearings on the hiring and employment practices of Lesbian and Gay businesses, specifically regarding race, color, national origin, and ethnicity. Cooperation like yours goes a long way in educating people and by so doing, works toward making positive and necessary advances.

Racism and other inequities must constantly be addressed and made visible. I hope that the *Bay Area Reporter* will continue in its efforts and that it causes other Lesbian and Gay groups, businesses, media, and individuals to make changes.

Jackie Winnow
SF Lesbian/Gay Community Liaison

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GUEST COLUMN

Gays, Lesbians and the Roman Catholic Church

by Hugh Murray

The *New York Daily News* headlined "O'Connor Nixes Gay Rights Order" Sunday, June 17, and the story detailed how Roman Catholic Archbishop of New York John O'Connor threatened to close Catholic child care centers rather than sign a pledge not to discriminate against hiring Gays. Near the end of the article, Charles Bell reported: "O'Connor . . . has been studying theories of homosexuality in preparation for making his statement. But he said he was not sure that he understood the subject."

I suggest that O'Connor's ignorance of the subject is revealed in those two sentences. In reality, one requires a theory of sexuality in mankind, not a theory of homosexuality. Man is a social animal; man is a sexual animal.

If one studies some of the many societies that man has developed, one sees heterosexuality and homosexuality practiced and tolerated throughout the globe from native American Indians to various African tribes to ancient Greece and the Roman Empire to the Turkish warriors who conquered the Middle East and a third of Europe in the 17th century.

Tolerance of homosexual activity was widespread and understandable because homosexuality is natural to and the preferred form of sexuality in an indeterminate percentage of mankind. It is natural.

What is more difficult to explain is the attitude of the Christians toward sexuality. Here is an interesting sampling of some of the lights of the Church:

- St. Augustine debated whether married couples could enter heaven, as they had engaged in fornication.
- St. Jerome urged young women not to bathe and intentionally spoil their pretty faces so as not to lead young men astray.
- St. Augustine justified the institution of female prostitution so that young men could avoid the temptation of homosexuality.
- St. Jerome endorsed the idea that a man who loved his wife with ardor was engaging in adultery.
- Origen, to avoid the temptations of the flesh, cut his balls off. (He later regretted it.)
- We know that when the Christians finally came to power in the Roman Empire, they made homosexuality a capital offense, and Gays and Lesbians were murdered for centuries thereafter in countries where Christians held sway.

The Roman Catholic view toward sex is simple — it's against it. And for priests and nuns, celibacy has been traditionally the rule (no matter that the rule may be broken, it remains the ideal, and if openly broken, the priest or nun can be disciplined and expelled). As most people could not achieve or had no desire to be celibate, the Church did permit sex, but only after marriage, with the mate, and in a position that would not interfere with the possibility of conception.

Sex simply for pleasure, alone, Gay or straight, was a sin. The only excuse for sex was conception or its possibility. Sex in itself was filthy and sinful. That

which stimulates sex is also filthy and sinful. Thus, the Church opposed sex for fun and it opposed pornography. Similarly, it opposed rubbers, contraceptive pills, and abortion.

But is sex sinful? Is it filthy? Each of us must answer this in our own way. I say NO. I think sex can be fun and clean and healthy and, therefore, good. It is natural. If homosexuality were really "unnatural," Christians would not have had to impose the death penalty to discourage it. Indeed, as Oscar Wilde observed, of all the sexual practices devised by man, only celibacy seems "unnatural."

The Roman Catholic approach to sex, by discouraging sex for pleasure — hetero or homo or mono — encourages large families with no thought of the welfare of the society as a whole. The result is often overpopulation, poverty, ignorance, starvation, war — and "faith." The New World provides a striking contrast between the Roman Catholic and the non-Catholic approaches to life. Which is better off, North America or South America? Which is better off, Northern Europe or Southern Europe? We can all be thankful that Wolfe defeated Montcalm at Quebec, and that the Haitians defeated the troops of Napoleon, or this continent might also be Catholic dominated.

And if America were Roman Catholic, it would probably be as overpopulated, strife-torn, and backward as the lands to our south. I am suggesting the heretical view that some of the poverty in South America and Latin America is due not to capitalist exploitation or imperialism, but to the internal dynamics of a Catholic society in which science is subordinate to faith and the inquiring mind stifled by censorship, in which human reproduction is rampant beyond any hope for the people to live without poverty, disease, crime, aggression, and war.

But what does Archbishop O'Connor care about overpopulation or war? Not long ago he blessed the bombs in Vietnam. O'Connor was a cheerleader for the American war against the Vietnamese people. He deemed that war both moral and just, an acceptable tragedy. So what if 50,000 Americans and hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese were killed? "There is reason in what our country is doing, not madness," O'Connor assured the American public. Moreover, "I believe we can win and are winning. Bit by bit we are winning the trust, not the hostility, of the people of Vietnam."

One wonders if the archbishop will soon be justifying American intervention in Latin America. After all, war reduces the excess population that is inevitable when birth control is denied. And in lands which the Church dominates, abortion, birth control services, homosexuality, and divorce are often illegal. Tragedy is thereby inevitable. But it has its bright side: more births, more deaths, more Masses.

The *Daily News* article concluded: Archbishop O'Connor "said that he knew of cases where even intoxication had led to homosexual activity." The archbishop should review his Latin proverbs — *in vino veritas* — in wine, there is truth. Indeed, that is one reason Gay

people should support a lower drinking age throughout the nation.

The Roman Catholic Church forced Galileo to deny that the earth revolved around the sun and placed him under house arrest for eight years. Some churchmen were horrified when Linnaeus classified plants according to sex (How can a pure lily be sexual?). Pope Gregory IX wrote that, though Jews should not be killed, they were slaves and should live in misery. Catholics murdered Protestants as heretics, and generally, before the French Revolution, Protestants had no rights at all in Catholic countries. (Of course, Protestants were soon killing Catholics, and Europe endured the 30 Years War.) Still, the Catholic Inquisition, which spread terror over much of Europe and into the New World, is synonymous with torture and death. For centuries, the word *Inquisition* retained all the warmth we now associate with the word *Gestapo*.

But times change. Now Catholics accept the Copernican view of the solar system and Galileo's work is no longer banned. Now the Pope speaks of ecumenism and attended a Lutheran service. He even had dialogues with Jews. Perhaps, in time, the Church will learn about nature and about sex, and it will then endorse full rights for sexually active Gay men and women. ■

"Ignorance is no excuse — it's the real thing."

— Laurence Peter (about an unspecified president)

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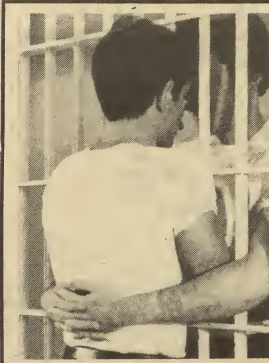
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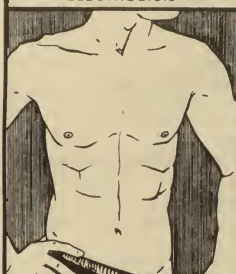
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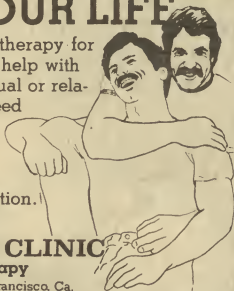
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LETTERS

Zoning Victory

★ Our neighborhood group recently achieved a rather astonishing victory through the support of the Board of Supervisors. Since December 1983, we have been fighting a proposed 48-unit condominium development at 17th and Eureka Streets. In early May of this year, we lost our appeal to the City Planning Commission by a narrow 4 to 3 vote. We decided to keep going and filed an appeal with the Board of Supervisors.

On Monday, July 9, the Board of Supervisors agreed with our appeal and voted 9 to 0 to support our efforts to bring about a development significantly reduced in bulk/density/height. The following supervisors showed strong, positive support: Molinari, Britt, Nelder, Kopp, Renne, Kennedy, Maher, Walker, and Silver. (Hongisto and Ward were absent.) We deeply appreciate their united vote for the quality of neighborhood life.

It seems important to let your readers know that Supervisor Molinari supported our efforts as actively as possible from the very beginning of our long struggle. This support meant a lot during our 6-month-long fight. Supervisor Britt was also very helpful.

We also had the backing of both the Harvey Milk and Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Clubs, for which we give thanks. Finally, many of your readers were, I am sure, among the nearly 900 San Franciscans who signed our petition which was presented to the Supervisors. Thanks, everyone.

Readers from other neighborhoods should realize from our victory that it is possible to win in a struggle with city government. All it takes is cooperative neighbors, much time, planning, sacrifice, planning, and most of all a strong belief in the rightness of one's cause.

Edward Scruggs
Co-Chairperson
Eureka/17th Street Neighbors
San Francisco

(Safe) Hanky Panky

★ "The Big Lie" editorial in the June 28 issue was a welcome addition to the sometimes questionable content of columns in previous months, and I wish to congratulate you on successfully setting the record straight about several health issues in our City. While Gay physicians are constantly struggling to make sense out of incomplete databases and develop recommendations to the Gay community based on "best guesses," our frustrating efforts have sometimes been derided and even undermined by those for whom Gay medicine is more of a political than a life-oriented item on their agenda.

Your column urging adoption of "safe sex" guidelines and avoidance of exchange of body fluids, the principles first enunciated by the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights, may contribute significantly more to educating the Gay community than all the pamphlets and cards we can produce.

We have also recently inaugurated another approach to education on a grass roots level. The handkerchief code previously so popular has largely disappeared from the scene because so many of the activities espoused have been shown to be unsafe. The new idea is to substitute a safe-sex handkerchief code, with a check-pattern being the hallmark of "safe sex" and various colors signifying various refinements or "scenes" in which safe sex can be enjoyed.

At the moment three colors have been selected, brown for cowboy and western, green for uniforms and military, and blue for leather and light S&M, all within the confines of the safe-sex guidelines. Other colors suggesting other scenes, including "cum as you are," will be added. Right and left positioning can still indicate bottom or top, respectively. Look for the new handkerchiefs soon in your favorite shop.

Checked handkerchiefs drooping from pockets of trim denims or designer models could do more than any newspaper or group to put across the safe-sex concept, start conversation about preferred safe-sexual activities with potential partners before taking the big step, and also show the world, including the health department and Lady Di that San Francisco Gays are fighting the spread of AIDS.

W. L. Warner, M.D.
Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights

Aids Home Care

★ Early in 1983, the Visiting Nurse Association of San Francisco (VNA), San Francisco Home Health Service, and Hospice of San Francisco began to provide skilled home health care and hospice care to people with AIDS. The three agencies submitted a proposal to the city in response to requests from the Board of Supervisors. As a result, a contract with the city was arranged in September of 1983 which would pay for unreimbursed home care and hospice service to AIDS patients.

Several problems arose. A major concern is the fee-for-service method of reimbursement which causes major cash-flow problems. In addition, the rate of reimbursement is far below the actual cost of care provided and outstrips the agencies' ability to subsidize care. Attendant care, which is an important service in keeping people at home, also requires the agency to front the money and causes a cash-flow drain. Another problem relating to attendant care is the time required to recruit, train, supervise and schedule attendants.

A further problem for the city and for the patients is the fact that care is split between the home care and hospice care divisions of the agency. To solve some of

these problems it has been proposed that an AIDS Home Care Unit be established within the VNA of San Francisco. The city has been asked to finance the cost of the actual team of nurses, social workers and others who are needed to carry out the work of this unit. VNA of San Francisco will be responsible for collecting Medicare, Medi-Cal, and private insurance reimbursements and would remit these funds to the city as collected.

Basically, what this means is that people with AIDS aren't getting all the care they need to allow them to stay home, because of insufficient funding.

What can you do?

Write the Mayor, the Supervisors, and the other city officers to urge them to fund and implement the AIDS Home Care Unit.

A sample letter could be as follows: "I am writing to ask you to support the VNA of San Francisco supplemental funding request for the fiscal year 1984/1985 creating an AIDS Home Care Unit to provide home health services and hospice care for people with AIDS. Thank you."

Bobby Reynolds
San Francisco

Ferraro Isn't First

★ Well, they are doing it again, and we are going to let them. In playing chess we put our pawns out front as they are expendable, they are only there to protect the knights, bishops, etc., right up to the kings.

This time it is putting a woman up for Vice-President, as though they were doing something wonderful and unique. They are not calling our attention to the fact that Toni Nathan was the Libertarian candidate for V.P. in 1972, that the party did not trade on the fact that she was a woman, and yes, she was the first female to get a vote from the Electoral College.

I personally am getting tired of being used by either the Republicans or the Democrats, only when it suits their convenience, yet they are too weak-kneed to take a stand for us on their platform — they prefer to repay with promises. To them, Gays, women, Hispanics, Asians, etc. are just pawns in their power game and they give us the label of minorities, which we nauseatingly accept. Damn it, we are not minorities, we are *human beings*, 8.4 billion strong and the only thing that holds us back is our opinions of ourselves and what we let the power kings call us and how we let them use us.

The Libertarian Party is the only political party whose platform includes all human beings as equals. Why is it that they are not supported? Because we have become conditioned to the idea that winning is everything, and we have bought the idea that a minority party can't win — and why not? With less than fifty percent of the eligible voters taking part in an election, and those votes split between two large and three smaller parties, the two majors don't have much to go on. A united stand for freedom from manipulation would win hands down.

Don Miller
Fulton

Elitist Letters Policy

★ Your new letter policy (Open-Forum, 6/28/84), which states that "to promote diversity, we favor letters from writers who do not appear frequently, over-repeated correspondence from a single author" appears paradoxical and reflects the editor's personal bias. The editor prefers diversity only by his own terms, but yet seems to frown on the diversity of opinion from one same individual in regards to various issues.

This policy might also be viewed as newspaper tyranny, for it suppresses somewhat the letter writer's right to a broad range of opinions. What biased policy will be implemented next? Perhaps one that says that those writers whose letters do not show a college-level education will end up having their letters thrown in the waste paper can. Moreover, you now request that a phone number be included in every letter for verification by your staff. So, those B.A.R. readers who do not or cannot afford a phone and wish to write a letter to the paper, are discouraged from doing so. I can see your rejecting anonymous letters as justified, but elitist, journalistic bias can be taken to the outer extremes.

Elitism in any shape or form is just that, elitism. It can be most counterproductive and detrimental to any minority group fighting for its rights, such as Gays. Class distinction translates to "elitism"; along with newspaper tyranny in the form of suppression of an individual's opinion, have no place in the Gay liberation movement. Sum up all of the aforementioned and the bottom line is that what you are really promoting is elitism, not diversity.

Every Gay individual, regardless of ethnic origin, education, sex, color, economic status, religion, etc., is an important human being, first and foremost. Taken in this context, diversity in our fighting for a common goal is what makes us great and a force to be reckoned with.

Your Open Forum should follow the cardinal rule of journalism: that it be receptive to one and all, whether it be input on multiple issues from a single individual, or same-issue feedback from a large number of readers. Think about it.

Ed Dollak
San Francisco

POLITICS AND POKER



Sweeping Up the Convention Tid-Bits

WAYNE FRIDAY

It's history now — the 37th Democratic National Convention came to San Francisco, nominated Minnesota's Walter Mondale and New York's Geraldine Ferraro — a "dream ticket" in the eyes of some Democrats and a "doom ticket" in the eyes of others. Certainly, the Democrats made history of their own by nominating a woman as its vice presidential candidate; Ferraro, if nothing else, offers a novelty to the Democrat's slate against the ever-popular Reagan.

Indeed, Ferraro offers the Democrats their only chance of knocking off the incumbent Republican President. Mondale had no other way to go and probably made a good choice. Can Mondale and Ferraro beat Reagan and Company in November? Doubtful, but not impossible.

A lot depends on what Hart and Jackson do to help the ticket — particularly, Jackson. The self-appointed leader of the nation's Blacks "demanded" that Walter Mondale acquiesce to a number of commitments in return for his all-out support this fall.

Included in Jackson's demands were that Blacks be appointed to key positions on the Mondale campaign staff. He demanded a commitment to major jobs training programs. And he called for the immediate appointment of a "fairness commission" to revamp delegate selection rules, including eliminating the "second primary" rules that apply in some 10 southern states. The second primary has long been a bone of contention among Blacks. Finally, Jackson asked for a "bold" move to secure peace in Central America.

After listening to all Jackson and his supporters asked for, Mondale gave them nothing — no commitments whatsoever. It remains to be seen what role Jackson will now play to help elect the Mondale-Ferraro team in November.

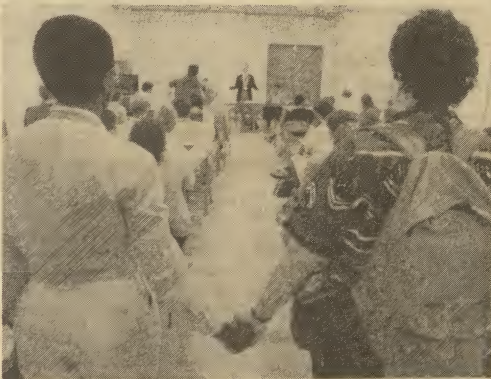
As for Gary Hart, it appears that he will help Mondale. But he, too, seemed to be going only through the motions, to say only enough to appear to be a graceful loser. After last week's "unity show" at Moscone Center, Mondale went fishing in Minnesota, Ferraro went grocery shopping (what else?) in Queens, Hart went surfing in Hawaii, and Jackson went brooding (minus his requested Secret Service protection) to Los Angeles.

Next, it's the Republican's show in Dallas next month. It's going to be a long time 'til November.

★ ★ ★

Convention afterthoughts: Willie Brown on the Hart speech: "He should have mailed it in." • Willie Brown on Mondale and Hart (before the voting): "They're both a couple of turkeys." • L.A. Mayor Tom Bradley on San Francisco after the convention: "The City came out smelling like a rose." (thanks, Tom). • Probably the most humane gesture of the Convention came when hundreds of Hart delegates swapped credentials with Black volunteers so they could get in to hear Jackson's powerful speech. • But don't try to figure out how the Demo committee credentialed

the Gay press for the convention. There is no logic when Sister Super-Inflated-Ego (aka Boom Boom) was credentialed as a reporter (?) for *Coming Up* while the respected *New York Native*, the largest Gay paper on the East Coast, received no credentials at all. • Many of the volunteers who are working hard to elect Democrat Lia Belli to the state senate are more than a little upset that they couldn't even get a visitor's pass for a one-time entry to the Moscone Center while Republican Milton Marks was given an "honored guest" pass for the entire four days. • Syndicated radio host Larry King was another of those to make mention of the fact that neither Hart nor Mondale could bring themselves to publicly say the words "Gay" or "Lesbian" even in San Francisco. • One of the up-and-coming stars of the party most interviewed last week in San Francisco was Assemblyman Tom Hayden, one of the Chicago 7 who took part in the Days of Rage outside the 1968 Demo Convention in Chicago. Hayden's wife Jane Fonda passed up the confab last week, preferring to stay "at home in Santa Monica with the kids."



Together for Gay Rights. Two women hold hands during one of the daily sessions of the convention's Gay and Lesbian Caucus. (Photo: Rink)



Gay Democrats. A quick huddle for Gay and Lesbian Democrats last week on the floor of the Democratic Convention. From left to right: John Maurice, Washington state; Kim Hunter, Arizona; D. Lynn Mattingly, Florida. (Photo: Rink)

★ ★ ★

Ginny Foat and Midge Constanza reportedly were miffed that they didn't get introduced to the throng at the big party at Sutter's Mill, and promptly stormed out of the place. Constanza, incidentally, still tells anyone who will listen that she once told former prez Jimmy Carter to go to hell, and

quit on him. (She was his "special assistant" for women's affairs). Constanza ran into her old boss here last week, when the two saw each other for "an emotional three minutes," and embraced. Constanza now lives in Studio City and is employed as a vice president of Alan Landsburg Productions.

One delegate told the *Bay Area Reporter* last week that she found the City little different than any other — except "probably more beautiful and certainly more friendly." She said, "We were warned about San Francisco being the city of 'fog and fags' and we have seen little of either, except we did see this one guy 'walking down Polk Street in a full wedding dress, but, what the hell, so what?'"

Maybe some of those Gay activists who are so tight with the SF Labor Council, always putting the labor demands right up there with Gay rights, should have a little chat with the boys at the Plumbers and Steamfitters Local No. 38. As the Lesbian/Gay march passed by last Sunday, a number of Local 38 members were calling out "sicko," and "you're disgust-

ing" to the marchers (are you reading this Howard?, Gerry?, Sal? • The delegates took home gobs of souvenirs with them — all free. Included among the freebie treasures given out to all delegates were Nieman-Marcus tote bags, bottles of California wine, assorted cheeses, boxes of See's candy, Levi Strauss tote bags, guava jam, Hawaiian marmalade, the necessities such as tubes of free tooth baste, band-aids, you-name-it.

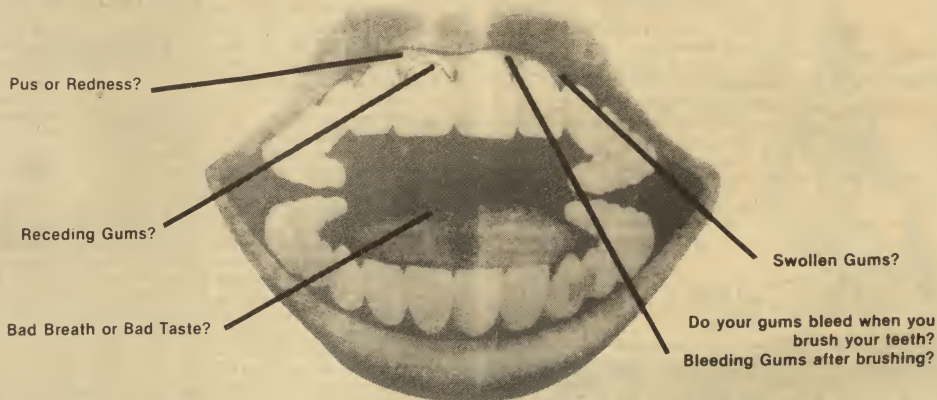
As each of the delegates checked into their rooms, they found yet another half-gallon bottle of California wine waiting — courtesy of Mayor Feinstein (River Oaks Vineyard Rose). "Every time we turned around we got another bag or briefcase of freebies," said one happy delegate.

★ ★ ★

Former congresswoman Bella Abzug pissed off a lot of the feminists by passing out cigars announcing the Ferraro candidacy that said "It's a Girl." The Secret Service has assured Ferraro that there will be no problem in providing her with at least a couple of

(Continued on next page)

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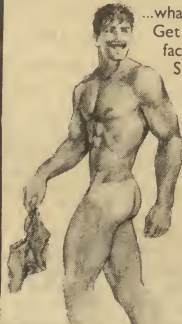
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POLITICS AND POKER

(Continued from previous page)

female agents. There are now about 70 women in the 1,800 member Secret Service force.

The performance of Dianne Feinstein during convention week and the publicity she garnered has stepped up talk of a Feinstein for Governor race in 1986 and the Mayor and her aides are doing little to discourage such talk.

Former governor Jerry Brown was everywhere during the confab — going to parties, writing a couple of columns for the *Chron*, and keeping an eye on his USA Committee, which has already raised a million bucks; the USA Committee, a Brown PAC, has already doled out the max (\$10,000) to a number of "electable" Democrats this year.

Meanwhile, Pat Brown, Jerry's dad, was also everywhere, reminding Democrats that his kid still has a political future ("You can't count Jerry out, he will come back," Pat declared.)

SF Police Department PR spokesman Sgt. Mike Perra praising the Lesbian/Gay March — "We could handle one like that every day with no problems," Perra declared. • Mayor Andrew Young of Atlanta eating crow and apologizing to Alveda King Beal, niece of the late Martin Luther King, for calling the late Black leader a "male chauvinist pig"; Beal is running for congress in Atlanta and Mayor Young is supporting her opponent. • One of the good guys, longtime Gay activist Bob Basker, recuperating in Presbyterian hospital from eye surgery, and would appreciate get-well cards, I'm sure.

One of the nicest "celebs" we met last week was Ron Reagan Jr., here covering the convention as a writer for *Playboy*; Reagan called himself a "registered Independent," but clearly is fond of his old man. • Famed Dick Tuck, the prankster par excellence of the Democratic Party and the nemesis of Richard Nixon, turned from the Democratic party last week and announced he was voting for Reagan. Disgusted with the Mondale nomination, Tuck says "The Democrats are on a disaster course, the people are screaming for somebody other than Mondale and nobody's listening to them; if there was one thing the primaries told us it was that they didn't want Mondale... the people will end up voting for Reagan and well they should."

Wasn't that Mayor Ed Koch spotted drinking in Castro's Twin Peaks bar last Wednesday? Koch: "No, I'm not homosexual, but if I was, so what?"

• Actress Margot Kidder, here as a writer for *Vogue*, hand-in-hand at Willie Brown's party, and all over town with Hart pollster Pat Caddell. • Alan Cranston on Demo's chances in November: "Ronald Reagan is still very popular, people may not like his policies, but they like him, so if all we're going to do is be against Ronald Reagan, we're going to be beaten in November — and we'll deserve it." Cranston, an early devotee of ending the nuclear arms race, lauded the Democratic party's strategy to prevent nuclear war and said his party must "slam the door on the Cold War mentality," in order to win in November. • Angela Davis, the Communist Party's nominee for vice president, going unnoticed on Polk Street last week during the Democratic convention. • And finally — the *Examiner's* TV columnist, Michael Douglas, handing out his "Dem-mies" Awards on the conven-



Hizzoner on Castro. New York Mayor Ed Koch dropped by for a drink. Is he Gay? It's none of our business, but Wayne Friday asks the question anyway. (Photo: Rink)

tion, gave his Shut Up and Go Away award in his Friday column to (you guessed it) "Sister Boom Boom is funny once but never twice. The national media turned the Sis into a living symbol for San Francisco. Jack Fertig, the guy-who's-her, is a shameless publicity hound who shows up in nun's drag any time there's a camera in town. It's time for Jack to lose his habit."

★ ★ ★

In Bangor, Maine, Gay activists protested as three juveniles accused of hurling a Gay man off a bridge were allowed to remain free in their parents custody. A judge gave prosecutors until July 31 to decide whether to try the suspects as adults in the July 7 killing of Charles Howard. • In Baltimore, Md., Gays say they'll sue if city Finance Director Charles Benton doesn't immediately release an \$18,000 grant to improve the Gay Community Center. Benton questions the grant's propriety. • Did you know that singer Pat Boone is president of KDOC-TV in Santa Ana, the station that carries the anti-Gay "Hot Seat" show, hosted by the Gay-hating Wally George? • The controversial portrait bust of the late George Moscone by sculptor Robert Arneson, is now at the home of its new owner, Foster Goldstrom, in Oakland, and those interested in finally viewing the bust should call 652-2431 to arrange an appointment. • Who says it takes one to know one? SF police officer Paul Swaitko was charged last week with soliciting a female Sausalito police officer for an act of pros-

titution... oh, dear!! • Geraldine Ferraro and her family have a summer home on Fire Island (the beaches there are great) • Do you realize that if Ronald Reagan is re-elected, he could appoint as many as four new justices to the Supreme Court? That, alone, should be enough reason to vote Democratic in November.

A huge turnout at Tuesday night's party at the Atherton for Dick Hongisto's long-time aide Dennis Collins, who's going on to other things with all agreeing that Dennis will be missed at City Hall. • Louis Lillian is Supervisor Hongisto's new administrative aide. • Dianne Feinstein, commenting on the incredible weather during the Democratic convention, smiled that, "God must be a Democrat."



Hongisto aide Dennis Collins (Photo: Rink)

Milk Club Blasts Kopp for 'Homophobic' Comments

The Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club unanimously censured San Francisco Supervisor Quentin Kopp this week for his "irresponsible and homophobic" comments that appeared in the July 1 issue of *The New York Times Magazine*. The action by the Milk club marks the third time this month that Supervisor Kopp has been criticized by a Gay political club for the anti-Gay interview.

Both the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club and the Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club have taken similar public action against the veteran conservative supervisor.

In the *Times* interview, Kopp told writer Lacey Fosburgh that "when people see these elements (Gays) of the party on television, they'll revolt and vote independent or Republican; the leadership of the Democratic Party is out of touch, catering to special-

interest groups like the Gays. The people of this country are more traditional than the party thinks. They'll be shocked by the Gays. My constituency was absolutely astonished by the Gay Freedom Day Parade. A sizable number even expressed revulsion."

The Milk club resolution, which passed unanimously Tuesday night, read: "The Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club hereby formally censures Supervisor Quentin Kopp for his irresponsible and homophobic attacks upon the Lesbian/Gay community and the Democratic Party in the July 1, 1984, issue of *The New York Times Magazine*."

The action, taken by the full membership of the club, came after the recommendation of the club's political action committee, with the concurrence of the executive committee.

DEATHS

ROBERT HAGOPIAN

Robert Hagopian, one of the most important pianists to emerge from the Bay Area, died yesterday of pneumocystis pneumonia following a year's battle with Hodgkins Disease. A student of Adolf Baller and a graduate of Oberlin College, he received a Doctorate of Music in Piano Performance from Indiana University where he studied with Menahem Pressler and Jorge Bolet. He also studied with Ilona Kabos in London.

Hagopian headed the piano department at the University of Santa Clara from 1974-78. Since then he has served on the faculty of the Dominican College and maintained a large private studio in San Francisco.

Known for his performances of major 20th century repertoire and rarely performed masterworks, Hagopian performed throughout the United States and Europe as a solo recitalist, chamber musician, accompanist and collaborator in the Hawley/Hagopian Duo. His recent Bartok recording on the Etcetera label received wide international acclaim.

Said *Le Monde De La Musique*, "In a repertoire where the competition is formidable, this young American pianist succeeds with a homogeneous disk which may be considered a landmark for one who is seeking a fine collection of Bartok's piano music."

Robert Hagopian, 39, is survived by his parents, Richard and Beatrice Hagopian, his sisters Ginny Hagopian of Fremont and Loretta Garrison of Cleveland, and his dear friend Winfried Weiss. No funeral services will be held. A memorial concert is planned for November 2 at Old First Concerts. Contributions are preferred to the medical charity of your choice, or to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. ■

ALLAN P. NOSEWORTHY

Allan P. Noseworthy, 34, was one of 23 people to die in San Francisco of AIDS in June. In 1976, he was one of several people who founded the Creative Power Foundation. In the late seventies, the Creative Power Foundation became a pioneer in the art of the super disco party spectacle.

Creative Power Foundation's The party, "Stars," is remembered by many as the pacesetter in this unique San Francisco entertainment phenomenon. In 1979, the Creative Power Foundation purchased all the seats at the Cow Palace for a first, ever, Gay night at the Ringling Brothers Circus. Over 7,000 people attended the event.

In New York City Noseworthy was a co-founder of the AIDS Resource Center, Inc. (ARC) and a member of its interim board of directors. In 1972 he was a founding member of TOSOS, New York City's first Gay theatre group.

The tragedy of AIDS became very personal to Allan Noseworthy prior to his diagnosis. He had known over two dozen close personal friends who died of the disease. Among those was Michael Maletta, who also worked with Noseworthy in founding the Creative Power Foundation.

Noseworthy assisted in planning an appearance last year by porn star Richard Locke at Savages in San Francisco. They arranged a benefit performance at the adult theatre to benefit AIDS. Over \$1,000 was raised, with half to go to the Shanti Project in San Francisco and the remainder earmarked for the AIDS Resource Center in New York. ■

GERALD PEARSON

Gerald Pearson was friend, poet and lover to us all. He is beloved and mourned by us, by his four beautiful children and their poetess mother. Gerald was co-chairperson of The 1981 National Tour Committee of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and leaves us a legacy of truly historical import.

We share these words he set for the chorus to the music of Jean Sibelius. The last phrase gave title to one of our first major concerts: "Lovers, Too, Have a Song to Sing."

FROM THE SILENCE

*Surely, surely from the silence
Breaks the song that we never sang,
Come the words that we never spoke,
The love that we've always hidden.
Once all men feared so to say it,
The love that dare not speak its name.
At last long last, from the silence,
Lovers come bringing gifts of song,
Voices sing of manly love.
No more will we hush the singing,
Never more will we hide our love.
No more will our joy be silenced.
Manly love has its melody.
Lovers, too, have a song to sing.*

Friends may join for an informal gathering, today, Thursday, July 26 in loving support of each other in our loss at The Pride Center, 7 p.m., main auditorium upstairs. ■

JIM SELL

A wake and open house for Jim Sell will take place 6 to 8 p.m. Monday, July 30, at 554 Liberty Street (near Castro). It will be a celebration of Jim Sell's birthday as well as a wake for his passing. Jim died July 6 of pneumocystis carinii pneumonia and subsequent cardiac arrest. He is survived by his lover of five years, David Snider, an ex-wife, Sharon Bookout, and son, David Sell. All friends are welcome. ■

Music Fills Grace for Sims' Memorial

Rites Set for Friday, August 3

by Allen White

A celebration of the life of Jon Sims has been set for Friday, August 3, at Grace Cathedral. The event to honor the founder of many of the city's prominent Gay musical organizations is scheduled to begin at 8:30. He died July 16 in San Francisco of AIDS.

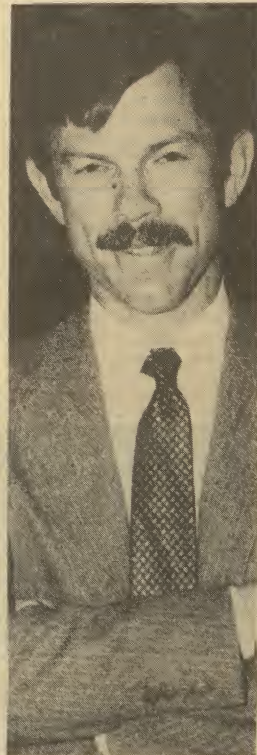
(Photo: Rink)

Planning for the event is being coordinated by a 15-person committee. Many in the group are close friends of Sims and others represent participating musical groups. Al Schaaf has been designated by Sims' sister, Judy Billings, to represent the family. Following a meeting last Sunday, details are starting to fall into place.

The service will feature music by the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band, the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Mixed Chorus, the Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale, and a vocal chorale under the direction of Robin Kay, as well as the Vocal Minority.

The San Francisco Tap Troupe chose not to perform at the service because of space and acoustic problems in the cathedral. They will be ushers for the service. The FLAG Corps will act as an honor guard. Schaaf said the presentation will be themed to "Over the Rainbow," a personal trademark of Sims.

At the meeting last week, several sites were considered for the service, including Everett Middle School, Nourse Auditorium, and the Band Shell in Golden Gate Park. In keeping with the wishes of the family, the service will be dignified and celebrate the contributions of Sims.



There will be no admission charge and all costs of presenting the memorial service will come from private funds. The consensus of those working on the event is that any contributions should be made either to the Shanti Project or to the San Francisco Band Foundation.

Following his death last week, his body was cremated and the ashes taken to his home town. His remains have been placed in a burial area with his father and mother at Fairview Cemetery in Smith Center, Kansas.

News of the death of this pioneer in Gay performing arts spread quickly across the country. Newspapers as varied as the *New York Times*, the *Kansas City Star*, and virtually all San Francisco newspapers and television stations carried obituaries.

Last Sunday night there was a moment of silence at Valencia Rose at a concert by the San Francisco Lesbian Chorus in honor of Sims. A giant screen television set has been moved into Ward 5B, the AIDS ward at San Francisco General, also in his memory.

In June of 1978, Jon Sims founded the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band & Twirling Corps. Dozens of Gay musical organizations have since sprouted up across the United States as a result of his vision. Sims inspired literally thousands of persons to use their musical ability as a vehicle for sharing their Gay pride.

The planning committee for the Grace Cathedral event stated that hopefully a provision will be made to include all those who have participated in the many musical organizations founded by Sims in the service. They suggest that those interested in how they may participate contact the musical group to which they originally belonged. Further information may be obtained by calling the San Francisco Band Foundation, 621-5619. ■

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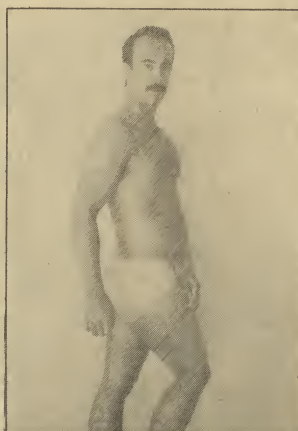


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Suspect Pleads Guilty In Laskey Murder

Charge Reduced to Manslaughter In Thanksgiving Strangulation

by Allen White

Timothy Reeder, 21, has pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter of Tom Laskey, a middle-aged San Francisco Gay man. The plea last week appears to indicate a turn away from use of the "homosexual panic" defense. Laskey was murdered in San Francisco last Thanksgiving.

Reeder pleaded guilty to the charge last week and will be sentenced August 23 to six years and eight months in jail. Assistant District Attorney Gene Sweeters told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he was satisfied with the results of the court proceedings.

Timothy Reeder could have been tried for first degree murder. The problems in proving the case were substantial. According to Sweeters, the state could prove Reeder had possession of Laskey's car and credit cards. At the same time, there was little evidence that actually placed Reeder at the scene of the crime.

Reeder was arrested in a Southern state where he was

working as a bagger in a grocery store. He had claimed he had purchased the stolen credit cards and the car so he could get out of San Francisco. Laskey was found dead by strangulation.

Sweeters explained that all the facts are presented in such a case to the judge, then the defense and prosecuting attorneys will attempt to negotiate a fair settlement. In this case, the judge, Judge Edward Stern, worked with the attorneys and was able to work out this settlement of the case. It was ultimately accepted by the client, Timothy Reeder.

This is the third murder case in San Francisco in recent months in which the "homosexual panic" defense was not used by the defense attorneys. The

procedure for this defense is that the defending attorney attempts to prove that the act of murder took place because the killer panicked and killed when he discovered his victim was Gay.

The "homosexual panic" defense has been under severe criticism in recent months. In San Francisco, the District Attorney's office has put together a team of attorneys and investigators to quash the use of this legal tactic. The last time the defense was used in San Francisco was by defendant Dana Holley.

Holley was found guilty of killing a bank executive and sentenced to life imprisonment. Holley used the "panic" defense and the District Attorney was able to skillfully tear down the use of the defense.

Dale McCormick, a delegate to the Democratic Convention from Maine, has been conferring with San Francisco attorneys about fighting this type of defense. In her home state there is currently a murder trial in progress where three teenagers threw a Gay man who couldn't swim into a river, and he drowned.

In that state, there is concern that the defense will succeed simply because the victim was Gay.



Cash for AIDS Services. Bob Bradshaw (c.), owner of the Obelisk, handed over more than \$5,000 in cash — that's the money behind him — to Robert Bolan (l.) and James Ferels (r.) of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. (Photo: Rink)

Obelisk Raises \$5,454 for S.F. AIDS Foundation

At the conclusion of a fundraising effort at the Obelisk, a Castro Street gift store owned

by Bob Bradshaw, it was announced that \$5,454 has been turned over to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation to assist in continuing and expanding the AIDS educational and social services programs offered by the Foundation.

In a ceremony Monday, July 23, members of the AIDS Foundation Board of Directors were joined by State Senator Milton Marks and Supervisor Harry Britt in publicly recognizing this outstanding and generous fundraising effort orchestrated by Bradshaw and his staff.

The fundraising effort was initiated by Bradshaw to draw attention to the ongoing need for community support of groups involved in the AIDS struggle. The monies donated were raised over a period of four weeks, June 22 through July 23; 15 percent of all sales were deposited daily into a special account administered by Eureka Federal Savings. Customers were able to witness the actual depositing of the 15 percent into a locked, clear lucite box kept on the Obelisk sales counter. Many customers and visitors to the store gave additional amounts in order to be supportive of the Obelisk endeavor.

Bradshaw surprised the gathering by announcing that the donation effort will be continued over the upcoming months. The Obelisk will donate 15 percent of sales which are made on the first Sunday of each month, August through November: August 5, September 2, October 7, and November 4.

AIDS Safe-Sex Guidelines

June 1984

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(Risk Increases With Multiple Partners)

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Sharing Sex Toys
Semen or Urine in Mouth
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Correction

An article in the July 19 issue of the *Bay Area Reporter*, "Stars — and Sisters — Forever," included an erroneous statement and a misleading photo caption. The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence were joined by others who are not members of their group in hanging flags and banners at the Democratic National Convention. The accompanying photo gave the impression that all four people depicted were associated with the Sisters. In fact, only the two persons on the left — Sister Sadie-Sadie and Gilbert Baker — are part of the Sisters' group.

GREATER BAY NEWS

Berkeley Passes Domestic Partners

(Continued from page 1)

Two hours of debate, broken by hisses and heckles, brought the city no closer to putting the idea into practice. But the action did establish Berkeley as the first jurisdiction in the United States ever to recognize Gay and Lesbian relationships.

Already, organizations such as the American Psychiatric Association and the National Organization for Women have benefit policies covering unwed domestic partners.

At the heart of the domestic partners issue lie fundamental questions of equality and economics. Benefits, a substantial portion of a worker's overall earnings, usually are awarded on the basis of marital status. Gay activists say these policies are discriminatory, and that Gay workers who pay money into benefit systems deserve equal access to the benefits provided by such systems.

Similar legislation easily passed the San Francisco Board of Supervisors last year, but Mayor Dianne Feinstein vetoed the bill.

In the Berkeley debate, there was little argument over the validity of Gay couples and unmarried couples as legitimate households. The debate, instead, revolved around cost. In Berkeley, the city picks up the entire tab for its employees' benefits.

Still, Gays were disappointed by the council's decision, which would put off all discussion of the matter until after March 1986. Proponents had hoped passage in Berkeley would lead to experimentation elsewhere. And East Bay Gay leaders hoped Berkeley would beat San Francisco to the task in what they considered a civil rights issue. The attitude was that the council had, in effect, acknowledged the need but refused the services.

Mary Ann Brownstein, vice president of the East Bay Les-

bian/Gay Democratic Club (EBL/GDC), said, "We were very disappointed in many respects with the vote. We had hoped that they would implement the legislation right away. We understand the financial crunch that the city is in."

"They're very hesitant to do anything that will cost more money. But we feel this is a case of our civil rights and it's just difficult to put price tags on civil rights," Brownstein said.



The two-year-old club will be planning strategy on how to implement the same policy in the Berkeley School Board, and portions of the policy in the City Council before the end of the year, perhaps prior to the City Council elections in November.

The stage was set as early as a week before the council vote when signs of reluctance came from the City Manager's office. Then early on Tuesday, City Manager Daniel Boggan, Jr. issued a recommendation that the pending proposal be referred to a cost study already being conducted by the Municipal Employees Union Local 535.

Proponents, who had initiated the dialogue with Local 535 and who supported the cost study to reinforce their case with the City Council, accused Boggan of playing one side against the other.

The final draft of Boggan's recommendation defended the City Manager: "Were the city not already committed to studying the domestic partner issue as a result of union negotiations, I would be requesting council to refer the Human Relations and Welfare Commission study to staff."

The council adopted Boggan's recommendation, and as it stands, the study will be conducted as a union/management

partnership. Boggan briefly explained his official position on domestic partners policy to the council. "It's an issue that's real, that has to be dealt with, and I'm not saying that we can't or shouldn't."

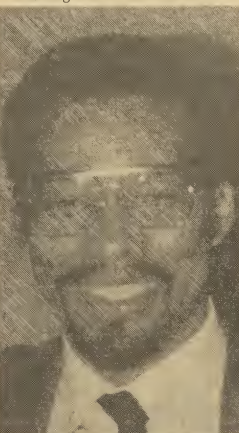
Feller later told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "If a whole new group comes in and claims benefits, the money has to come from somewhere else."

Backers accused the majority of simply putting the issue off. They say Gays and unmarried straights have a right to the benefits. David Cunningham, chair of the Human Relations and Welfare Commission (HRWC), said shortly after the meeting, "In the past week it became very evident that, in fact, members of the 'conser-

ervative' council side were not going to adopt domestic partner benefits despite the fact that publicly they have been saying they were in favor."

"While there were some legitimate questions raised, what seemed to be manifested was more stalling than anything else. It seems that when benefits on civil rights cost money, then all of a sudden people want to stick their heads in the sand."

Mayor Eugene "Gus" Newport said, "I'm sure if you went back and listened to tapes from tonight's meeting and then listened to the tapes of some of the struggles that were going on 20 or 30 years ago, you'll find an extremely close correlation."



EBL/GDC Political Action Chair and domestic partners benefits advocate Tom Brougham said, "The fact the heterosexuals have a stranglehold on everything doesn't mean that

that's the way it's always got to be. And the fact that I was born into a world in which they already have a stranglehold doesn't mean I have to sit here and not struggle against it."

"I want to get up in the morning and go to my job and work and take home the same amount of money and I think that we can move forward on that," Brougham said.

The vote last week split evenly along party lines. The minority "no" and abstention votes supported immediate passage of domestic partners benefits and protested the delay in implementing them. The more con-

servative All Berkeley Coalition (ABC) bloc, the majority bloc which voted for the delayed partners measure, sees most of its members facing election in just a few months.

Brownstein indicated that a liberal takeover may be coming in the November election, and that a domestic partners policy could pass through a council dominated by the more liberal Berkeley Citizen's Action bloc. If the election restacks the membership of the council, the council could revisit the domestic partners issue and speed up the benefits timetable.

Earlier this month, the Berkeley Citizen's Action party endorsed domestic partners benefits at its platform convention. ■

J. Wetzel

"If you listened to the struggles of 30 years ago, you'll find a close correlation."

Mayor Gus Newport

"It's an issue that's real, that has to be dealt with — and I'm not saying we can't or shouldn't."

City Manager Daniel Boggan

Klan Plans for March Fizzle; Cops Head Them Off at the Bay

by Allen White

The Ku Klux Klan was unsuccessful in its try to hold an anti-Gay demonstration last week during the Democratic Convention. The *Bay Area Reporter* learned that Imperial Klan Wizard William Alvers and his half-dozen supporters had been followed closely by San Francisco police intelligence officers for almost a month.

Alvers, who claims to be the Imperial Wizard of the American Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, announced plans several weeks ago to come to San Francisco to demonstrate against Gays. From the first announcement, there were concerns about violence if they came to San Francisco. Contrary to early reports, the group never obtained a police permit, though it had been sought.

Alvers is based in Modesto, California. This is the same Central Valley town where Jerry Falwell began his campaign of anti-Gay rhetoric just prior to the beginning of the convention here.

From intelligence reports, police were aware that the Klan

members would arrive last Thursday morning at about noon. When they crossed the Bay Bridge they were met by police and escorted first to Southern Station, located in the Hall of Justice.

Under heavy security, they were moved to the office of San Francisco Police Chief Con Murphy. Hallways leading to Murphy's office were sealed by police.

Once inside the office, Police Chief Murphy told the half-dozen men that the city did not have enough police officers to give the men protection to demonstrate. Chief Murphy also told the men they were not welcome in San Francisco. ■

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NILZ PAS

CALLOW CONSORTIUM (A Distributing Nose?)

Under a widening umbrella of confusion some principal fundraisers met to discuss a number of issues. The questions: Why funds for charity were kept in the Hayward Gay Sheriff Committee's account and why funds raised in the series of auctions still remain in the coffers of the Tavern Guild Foundation. The meeting was held in the home of Reverend Jodi Safier (Pastor Maranatha MCC) in San Leandro, at her and Gay Sheriff 6 Sean's request on Monday, July 16.

Invited to this meeting were Ed Paulson, Little Mother, Daddy David, Zephyr Jim, Art (outreach minister of Maranatha MCC), Jeremy Landau

(AIDS project operating out of, but not connected directly with Pacific Center), and yours truly.

Over a delightful midday repast, it was suggested by Jodi that perhaps to avoid suspicion and possible circumvention, all monies could be put into a proxy account through her Hayward church, as she wanted the church more involved with the bars, since, we all agreed, Hayward is a bar-centered community.

Discussion then centered upon the new AIDS ward at Fairmont Hospital and the patients to be housed therein. It was agreed that the concern must not remain solely with the patients in that ward (with phones, TV's, shaving gear, etc.) but also there must be some

intent going to outpatients for rent, food and clothing, plus services not covered by any medical or disability insurances.

Concluded, indeed, was that all AIDS patients, whether in or out of the hospital, are worthy of assistance and justifiably in need of all our help. But the problem arose as to how they could be contacted and aided. Logic determined that one central "clearing-person" would and could field all inquiries and requests and forward them to a "clearing-committee" to disburse monies deemed most needed.

A decision was reached that Jeremy Landau would act as the "clearing-person" to receive all inquiries and referrals from AIDS patients or concerned parties and refer their cases to a committee for deliberation and disbursement of cash, services, merchandise, and assistance. The committee selected includes: Sean, Jim, Pastor Jodie, and David of Hayward; and Pete and Marv of Oakland. The outreach number for those in Alameda County seeking assistance for themselves or others is: Jeremy Landau, 548-8283.

This grouping is involved with only those monies from the Hayward Gay Sheriff Committee and from Ed and Little Mother's auction series, and is neither connected with nor associated with any other assistance organization soliciting funds for AIDS patients. This grouping concluded that receipts are mandatory in order for donors to actually see how their monies are used.

It's just too easy for a Joe Blow to request \$200 for patient Joe Smoe and disappear into the scenery leaving no proof that Joe Smoe ever received any money or assistance. Matter of fact, Jeremy did request funds for one of his outreachers for plumbing repair and a stove. Ed Paulson knew of a plumber he could contact and Little Mother knew of a stove that was available! No funds were exchanged but the assistance and service was provided.

Also, there will be no salaries whatsoever for either Jeremy or the newly formed committee, "East Bay AIDS Fund."

After this initial meeting, it was learned that Alameda County may be looking for a private contractor to run Fairmont Hospital. If the AIDS Ward doesn't come into being, then the committee will concentrate totally on referrals from the outreach number.

As far as the uncertainty of the cassie claudication, as of this writing, a promise of "proof in four days" is now nine days late (and counting?), and promised letters to check writers were also among the wanting.

PANCOPTION FIERIAL/NATAL DAY (A Beheaded Nose?)

The annual Bastille Day Celebration at the Turf Club on July 14 was also a hallowing of Dean S's birthday, and what a hot time it was — in more ways than one! The Barbary Coast Cloggers started off the festivities with several perspiration-flowing numbers,

while the over-abundant buffet sat awaiting in the intense caefaction. Thank goodness that the shrimp salad was bedded in ice. After a brief interlude for the nosh to be consumed, Go For Broke Band took "center stage" playing several sudoring sets in to the wee hours of the morning.

A tip of Nez's nose to Dean, Jack, Jim, Midget, and all the bartenders who kept the booze afflowing. S'funny, but all during the festivities there was not one single representative (employment-wise) of the newest bar down there.

ARMARY MANDREL (A "Drag-ging" Nose?)

It was a reincarnation of the legend of the Phoenix — out of disaster, some success. Cha Cha's Closet Ball '84 started with several strikes against it. First, only two of the promised decorating committee showed up. Second, four of the contestants backed out at the last minute, leaving only one. Third, the entire entertainment package — along with its coordinator — disappeared. Fourth, only a sparse, to say the least, crowd deigned to attend. Fifth, none of the anticipated "previously worn fashions" from out of town ever showed up. But, miracle worker Lady Stephanie managed to put together the entertainment in just two hours, and thanks must go to her, Sandy Sorrelles, Desiree, Cha Cha, Connie, Tim, Lady Randy (in Sam's high heels!), and Rhonda for filling in for the absent entertainers.

The lone entry was Pam from Jubilee, and a vision of loveliness she was in her female attire. But the entire house was brought down to a standing ovation (if that's possible) when Lady Dee Dee's creation "Peter" sauntered on stage in leather, Levi's, basket, moustache, muscles, and merkins under the arms. "Peter" garnered perfect 10's from the judges, and me thinks "he'll be a force with which to be reckoned."

When word spread through the audience about the disappearance and total lack of concern from the entertainment coordinator, rumblings were heard from most every table about a boycott against this person's production on August 25. It was the feeling of most everyone that only an excuse of his own death would be accepted, and "New Garland" sank to an extremely new low in the eyes of Alameda County.

NEZ'S NOTES:

- Sunday, July 29 is the last day of Town & Country's parking lot flea market. Any "treasures" that don't sell can cheerfully be taken to the auction at Lake Lounge at 4 p.m. This is the fifth in Little Mother and Ed Paulson's "beginning" series.
- Howscome "treasurer Paul" couldn't find his way to San Jose? The Coronation didn't see him, but Big Mama's did. All dressed up and no where else to go, Paul?

- Two anniversary parties coming up in August — well, actually three, but who cares that my

spouse and I stuck it out for 20 years. On Saturday, August 18, Lake Lounge celebrates its fete with a tremendous "past performers show" organized by Manuel. That same evening, and continuing on to Sunday night, Revol celebrates its 10th year, with entertainment and a complementary buffet on Sunday evening.

- Sunday, August 12, Little Mother and Ed Paulson team once again in San Francisco at the Renegade on Polk Street. The auction begins at 4 p.m.

- Sunday, August 12 is the first ACIE Grand Duke and Duchess Elect at Ollie's Radcliff Hall, beginning at 4 p.m. Only one entry per title: Lady Randy for Grand Duchess and "Wandering" Paul for Grand Duke, so cast your votes wisely.

- Drop by Town & Country some Sunday afternoon and you're likely to catch "Sarge" singing his heart out at the piano bar.

- Congratulations to Ed Paulson/Little Mother and Gay Sheriff VI Sean for handing over to Tavern Guild \$2653 and \$1000, respectively, for AIDS.

- Congratulations, also, to Steve S. for winning the second in a series of swimsuit dance contests at Bench & Bar. Gads, but it's fun being a judge, (along with Little Mother and Dean of the Garden of Eat'n) and Mark of the New Bell is a great MC. These contests will be held every other Sunday at 7:30 all the way into October.

- Randy Johnson, give the powers that be another reminder, OK? Am I being saved for the grand finals?

- "All My Children" now has a steady, loyal audience every noon at the Lake Share Lounge. One dares to speak only during the commercials.

- I know why I was there, but why was Rhonda Love at the Castro Station last week? It was good to see John Ebarb again, even dressed in leather.

- Rick Weatherly, Pastor Oakland MCC, don't forget about that scaffolding; the rightful owner can still use it.

- Hayward's annual Zucchini Festival had all the "city fathers" at Big Mama's one evening, sampling drinks made with that prolific squash. No announcements of any prizes, as yet, but how can you go wrong with a zucchini Martini?

- Saturday, August 25 marks the Ordination of Maranatha MCC pastor, Rev. Jodi Safier, at MCC San Francisco. She informed me that any and all offerings will be turned over to AIDS benefits.

- It has been suggested to me that anyone thinking about being tested for HTLV-III should think twice and thrice. The results could show positive even though no AIDS exists.

The Nose, to some, may be wretched, upturned, twisted, and even plugged, but it will always probe for truth. So "Counsel Rule" and "Town" can watch me smile on that! Love,

Nez

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Hills are Alive with Gay Music

by Duke J. Armstrong

Hollywood, CA - Billed as "A Gay Night at the Bowl," Christopher Street West produced a unique Gay extravaganza at Los Angeles' famous Hollywood Bowl the last Friday of June. Lesbian and Gay bands from all across the country came together and joined forces for a combined concert and celebration of Gay musical talent. It was a delight to see and hear. And it was a milestone along the road to developing Gay culture.

Certain distinctive elements characterize a successful Gay extravaganza: old-fashioned, flag-waving patriotism; pageantry and choreography for days; dull political speeches; slapstick humor; an overly-long intermission; a good female vocalist; general overall campiness; a stirring and majestic finale; and (where possible) a unique setting. The Hollywood Bowl concert included all that and much more. It was quintessentially Gay.

And it was a major achievement. Conductor Michael Leckrone, Director of Bands for the University of Wisconsin, deserves kudos for bringing together over 300 Gay and Lesbian amateur performers from nine different cities who had

varying degrees of talent and sophistication and who had never performed together in their lives, and for taking all these divergent elements and molding them into a single unified band. He did it successfully with only two days of advance rehearsal — which easily explains why he is one of the most renowned marching band conductors in the nation.

The concert opened appropriately with Copland's "Fanfare for the Common Man," which was played with some hesitancy. But the musicians quickly gained confidence and hit their stride as the evening progressed and under the enthusiastic approval of an audience of nearly 10,000. The combined Twirling and



High-Stepping Toe Tapping. The Tap Troupe brings a long-lost staccato to the Hollywood Bowl. (Photo: Gretchen Cotter)

Flag Corps of the various bands did their own unique routines during the first act to add the color and spectacle and aesthetics so much appreciated by Gay audiences.

But the high point and finale of the first act was "Lullaby of Broadway," featuring the San Francisco Tap Troupe dressed in white tie and tails and delightfully tapping their way across stage. It was reportedly the first time since the 1940s that the Hollywood Bowl has seen tap dancers, and they were greeted with thunderous applause and a standing ovation as they danced their way through a classic routine.

The second act was all Rita Moreno. Gays love a talented and classy female performer, and Moreno is certainly that: the only person ever to win all four of the major show business awards: the Oscar, the Emmy, the Grammy, and the Tony. And what a show she gave! She

worked her way flawlessly through show tunes and dance numbers with her daughter Cheril Vendetti. It was interspersed with campy patter, numerous costume changes, and hilarious asides. Moreno finished with "Strike Up the Band," joined in by all 250 Gay musicians.

The concert concluded with three encore numbers by the combined Gay bands: "America the Beautiful," "Stars and Stripes Forever," and "Battle Hymn of the Republic." Nothing could have been more stirring and patriotic; the audience was never off its feet.

The concert as a whole reflected the growing sophistication and refinement of Gay culture. Rome was not built in a day, and Gay culture did not spring to life full-blown at the flick of a limp wrist. It has been six years since Jon Sims first stepped forward to Strike Up the Band here in San Francisco.

The ensuing years have been ones of painful growth, filled with experimentation and the careful building of an intellectual and aesthetic framework to make possible concerts like that at the Hollywood Bowl. In a way the Hollywood Bowl was itself only further experimentation. The Bands derived a treasure of new techniques and ideas to enrich their separate communities for years to come.

Gay musical groups began as a fad, attractive only because it was new and different. But they have withstood the ups and downs of momentary acclaim to build an artistic depth and a foundational repertoire. Art in general, music in particular, have a way of galvanizing people and of lyrically articulating the hopes and dreams of an entire community. That is the role the Gay bands have taken on. And that is what the Sound of Music in the Hollywood Hills was all about. ■

Pryor Apologizes for Slur Against Gays 7 Years Ago

Los Angeles - Nearly seven years after making an infamous appearance at the Hollywood Bowl, comedian Richard Pryor made a public apology to Gays for remarks that were "stupid" and were homophobic insults.

In an appearance June 28 at the Biltmore Hotel here, Pryor told attendees at a benefit for Van Ness House, a recovery program for Lesbian and Gay substance abusers, that what he said at the Hollywood Bowl during a human rights benefit came while he was under the influence.

"I was drunk and I was doing some coke (cocaine) and I

was an asshole and I hurt a lot of people. I want to apologize and make amends for what I said. I really don't mean those things," Pryor said to the audience, which responded with a rousing standing ovation.

Pryor made his confession and apology at the end of a 30-minute comedy routine which he donated to Van Ness House as part of a three-hour benefit that raised more than \$20,000.

Pryor sweetened his apology with a \$1,000 donation. ■

— Update,
Southern California

Charges Filed in Slayings of LA Male Hustlers

Los Angeles - Two more murder charges were filed June 27 against members of a self-styled "family" of transients already charged with the murders of four young men in a bloody campaign to rid West Hollywood of male prostitutes.

Murder and robbery charges were filed against six members of the group — being held without bail at the Los Angeles County Jail — in the killings of Andrew Lawrence Foster, 22, and Carlos Pena, 24. Both their bodies were found May 21.

Autopsies found that Foster was killed sometime between February 26 and April 27 and that Pena was killed between April 21 and May 21. The body of an earlier victim, William Dean Henning, 28, was found under a tree at Angeles National Forest.

Charged with three counts of murder are Thomas Canup, 22; Oleg Pinsky, 19; Robert Ormsbee, 20; Cheryl McPherson, 21, and George Godfrey, 42. A sixth member of the transient "family," identified as Phillip

Dowell, 25, is still at large.

Police said that Foster was killed following an argument with "family" members over the division of spoils from a robbery. Pena was killed after being kidnapped from a bus stop on Santa Monica Boulevard. ■

— Update,
Southern California

Bible-Toters Harass MCC; Police Called

San Diego - Fundamentalist demonstrators picketed the local Metropolitan Community Church here for the fourth week in a row Sunday, prompting MCC clergy to call police.

"This is clearly becoming a campaign of harassment against us," an MCC spokesman said. Upon arrival, the police ordered eight picketing, Bible-toting fundamentalists to leave. They complied, moving across the street. ■

— Update,
Southern California



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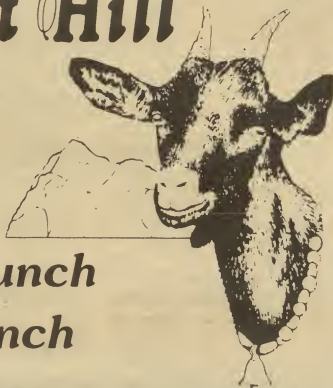
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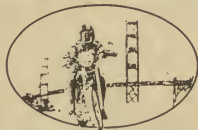
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THIS

FRIDAY 27

- **Chelsea Girls/Vinyl/The Loves of Ondine:** film, Martin/Weber Studios, 220 8th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Andy Warhol's films introduced by their star, Pope Ondine.
- **Pointer Sisters:** music, Concord Pavilion, 2000 Kirker Pass Rd., Concord, 8 PM, \$9.75 and \$13.75.
- **Godzilla Voice:** stage performance, New Generic, 2 Clinton Park, S.F., 9 PM, \$4. A visual and musical exploration of the foibles of love through a collection of poetry, prose, and commentary scored for bongos, persussion instruments, children's toys, and three male vocals. Written, directed, and performed by Alex-5, with a slide presentation by Jeffrey Kriger.
- **Jazz:** dance class, Pride Center Auditorium, 890 Hayes St. at Fillmore, S.F., 6 to 7:30 PM, free. Beginning jazz taught by Ron Petersen. Wear gym clothes or loose clothing.
- **The Annual St. Valentine's Day Zin Tasting:** stage performance, Studio Eremos, 401 Alabama St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6. Written by Joe Besecker, directed by Constance Cramer.
- **Paradise is Closing Down:** stage performance, South of Market Cultural Center, 935 Brannan St., S.F., 8 PM, \$7 and \$8. Presented by Red Flag Theater, by South African playwright Pieter-Dirk Uys, directed by Leon Johnson.
- **Pocket Opera:** stage performance, Herbst Theatre, S.F., 8 PM, \$8 to \$15. *La Perichole* will be performed.
- **Two Acts for the Deaf Yak:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6. Reflex Action Theatre presents Christopher Durang's *Nature and Purpose of the Universe*, David Mamet's *The Sermon*, Robert Patrick's *Something New*, and Laura McHale's *The Perfect Couple*.
- **Kevin Ross:** music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 9 and 10:30 PM, cover.
- **North Beach Grand Opera:** stage performance, Fort Mason Center, Building C, Room 300, S.F., 7:30 PM, \$10. *Suor Angelica* by Puccini and *I Pagliacci* by Leoncavallo will be presented.
- **Bad Mothers:** stage performance, People's Theater, Fort Mason Center, Building B, S.F., 8 PM, \$7.50. The new adventures of Ladies Against Women written and performed by the Plutonium Players.
- **Naked Brunch IV - The Final Episode:** stage performance, Club 181, 181 Eddy St., S.F., 11 PM, \$5. The Alexis Carrington Colby Players present the conclusion of S.F.'s live soap opera series.
- **Tristan:** stage performance, Gill Theater, Fulton and Cole Sts., S.F., 8 PM, cover. Medieval rock musical featuring pop songs from the '50s and '60s. Call 928-9869 for reservations.
- **Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris:** cabaret, 132 Bush, 132 Bush St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$10. Starring Ruth Hastings.
- **Duck's Breath Mystery Theatre:** stage performance, Intersection for the Arts, 756 Union St., S.F., 11 PM, \$6. Special election show in honor of the Democratic National Convention.
- **Ikke, Ikke, Nye, Nye:** stage performance, Zephyr Theatre, 595 Mission St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$6. Playtime Productions will present Lanford Wilson's play along with *Lunchtime* by Leonard Melfi.
- **Marcia Harp:** music, The Plush Room, Hotel York, 940 Sutter St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$8.



The P.D.B. Trio will perform at the River Village in Guerneville Saturday.



The Four Skins go '50s for the

- **Cutting Canvas:** stage performance, Magic Theatre, Building D, Fort Mason, S.F., 8:30 PM, \$11. The final offering of Magic's 1983-84 season. A world premiere by James Keller and Albert Takazauckas.
- **Suzanne Berger:** comedy, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, free.
- **Something's Afoot:** stage performance, Presentation Theater, 2350 Turk St. at Masonic, S.F., 8:30 PM, \$10 and \$12. A musical spoof of Agatha Christie mysteries performed by The Lamplighters.
- **Rodgers and Hart:** musical celebration by the West Valley Light Opera Association, Saratoga Civic Theatre, 13777 Fruitvale Ave., Saratoga, 8:30 PM, \$7.

SATURDAY 28

- **Erotic Art Show:** presented by the Arts Guild of Sonoma, 2 Vintage Lane, Glen Ellen, noon to dusk, \$6. Adults only. For more information call (707) 996-3115.
- **P.D.B. Trio:** music, River Village, Guerneville, 8:30 to 11:30 PM, free. Lite Beer from Miller presents this concert as part of a series in recognition of the achievements of the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band.
- **Women's Music Festival:** presented by the Mateel Women's Music Network, Beginnings School, Briceland, 2 to 9 PM, \$10 to \$20 sliding scale for a two-day pass, continuing July 29. For more information call (707) 923-3458.
- **Girth and Mirth of San Francisco:** meeting, The Mint, 1942 Market St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Dinner, drinks, and socializing for fat Gay men and their admirers. For more information call 861-3664.
- **Eastbay Lesbian and Gay Men Runners Club:** run, Sequoia Bayview Trail, Joaquin Miller Park, Oakland, 10 AM. For more information call 843-4968.
- **Sharon McNight:** music, Raggs, 22 4th St., S.F., 10:30 PM, cover.
- **Chelsea Girls/Vinyl/The Loves of Ondine:** film (see Friday listing for details).
- **Godzilla Voice:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Swing Fever:** music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 9 PM to midnight, cover. Jazz and dance music with Bryan Gould and his orchestra.
- **Two Acts for the Deaf Yak:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Gay Comedy Night:** with emcee Tom Ammann and guests Danny Williams, Mario Mondelli, and Karen Ripley, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5.
- **Pocket Opera:** stage performance, Herbst Theatre, S.F., 8 PM, \$8 to \$15. *La Vie Parisienne* will be performed.
- **Paradise is Closing Down:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **The Annual St. Valentine's Day Zin Tasting:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Bad Mothers:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Naked Brunch IV - The Final Episode:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Tristan:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **North Beach Grand Opera:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris:** cabaret (see Friday listing for details).

WEEK



for the extravaganza Monday at the Endup.

1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8 PM, cover. With Scrawlaway Machine.

• **Lynda Bergren:** music, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 6 PM, cover.

• **Gay Comedy Open Mike:** with co-emcees Tom Ammann and Mario Mondelli, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$2. Performer sign-up at 7:30.

• **Bonnie Hayes:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, free.

TUESDAY 31

• **Homosexuality in the Soviet Union:** lecture, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$4. Mark von Hagen, a student of Russian History at Stanford University, talks about the Lesbians and Gay men he met in Moscow and the legal status of Gays in the USSR. Part of the Gay and Lesbian Pioneers history series.

• **Val Diamond:** music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 9 and 10:30 PM, cover.

• **Terri Cowick:** music, 132 Bush, 132 Bush St., S.F., 6 PM, cover. With Bob Bendorff at the piano.

• **Monica Palacios and Mario Mondelli:** comedy, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 6 and 7:30 PM, \$3.

• **Bryan Monte and Sam D'Allesandro:** reading, Intersection, 756 Union St., S.F., 8 PM, \$3. Monte will read from a new work, *Neurotika*, and D'Allesandro will read selections from his book, *Slippery Sins*. For more information call 397-6061.

• **Radical Women:** meeting, 523-A Valencia St., S.F., dinner at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM. Pat Hirose, Asian American activist, will host a discussion of *Home Girls*, a Black feminist anthology. For more information call 864-1278.

• **An Evening of Condominium:** meeting, the Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality, 1521 Franklin St., S.F., 7:30 to 9:30 PM. Condoms and Rubber Love will be discussed, with a focus on how to eroticize and care for latex products, especially condoms.

• **International Folk Dancing:** dance class, Nova Academy, 347 Dolores St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, \$2. No pre-registration necessary. Call 552-8413 for more information.

• **Ginger Doss:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, free.

WEDNESDAY 1

• **Frontline:** playreading, Studio Rhino, 2926 16th St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$3. A drama about the WWII purge of the Women's Army Corps, by Pam Schaeffer, directed by Linda Wright.

• **Riot Squad:** comedy/improvisation, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$4.

• **Lady Bianca:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, free.

• **David Lamble Interviews:** radio, KPFA-FM 94, 4:30 to 6 PM. Highlights from the National March for Lesbian and Gay Rights and the comedy and music of Lea DeLaria and Jeanine Strobil. Listener calls taken at 848-4425.

• **Jazz:** dance class (see Friday listing for details).

• **Cutting Canvases:** stage performance, \$10 (see Friday listing for details).

• **Writing Workshop:** for seniors 60 and older, 7:30 PM. Conducted by George Birimisa, sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call 431-6254 for address and more information.

THURSDAY 2

• **Two Acts for the Deaf Yak:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Leopard Set:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, free.

• **Pocket Opera:** stage performance (see Saturday listing for details).

• **The Annual St. Valentine's Day Zin Tasting:** stage performance, \$5 (see Friday listing for details).

• **Bad Mothers:** stage performance, \$5 (see Friday listing for details).

• **Tristan:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Cutting Canvases:** stage performance, \$10 (see Friday listing for details).

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursdays.

- **Ikke, Ikke, Nye, Nye, Nye:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Cutting Canvases:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Marcia Harp:** music, 7 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **Rodgers and Hart:** musical celebration by the West Valley Light Opera Association (see Friday listing for details).
- **Something's Afoot:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

SUNDAY 29

• **Ms. Gay California Pageant:** stage performance, Robbie's Disco, 390 College Plaza, Pomona, 8 PM, \$5. The female contestants will be judged on presentation, personality, answer to a question, and looks. The evening will include entertainment and dancing. For more information call (619) 692-1967.

• **Women's Music Festival:** presented by the Mateel Women's Music Network (see Saturday listings for details).

• **Hot Links:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4 to 8 PM. New Orleans rhythm and blues.

• **San Francisco FrontRunners:** run, Mountain Lake, 9th and Lake Sts., S.F., 10 AM. One to 3.3 miles.

• **G40+:** picnic, boat leaves from pier 43 1/2, 10 AM, \$6, arrives back in S.F. at 5 PM.

• **Vocal Minority:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6. The entertainment specialists of the S.F. Lesbian/Gay Chorus repeats the concert performed during Gay Pride Week.

• **Pocket Opera:** stage performance, Herbst Theatre, S.F., 8 PM, \$8 to \$15. *The Bridge of Sighs* will be performed.

• **Paradise is Closing Down:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Bad Mothers:** stage performance, \$5 (see Friday listing for details).

• **North Beach Grand Opera:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Cutting Canvases:** stage performance, 2 and 8:30 PM, \$8.50 and \$10 (see Friday listing for details).

• **Lady Bianca:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5 to 8 PM, free, With Ladies Choice.

• **All Join Hands:** Gay square dancing, dancers from every club join hands at 4170 Market St., S.F., 5 to 7:30 PM, donation.

• **Bye-Bye Verdi:** music, Mame's, 389 Bay at Mason, S.F., 3:30 PM, \$5. A light-hearted look at Grand Opera with Sam Bittner and five local "stars of tomorrow."

MONDAY 30

• **Turn Back the Hands of Time:** extravaganza, The Endup, 401 6th St. at Harrison, S.F., 7 PM, \$2. Emperor Rich Carle, Empress Remy, The Imperial Court of the Golden Phoenix and the Silver Nightingale present *The Four Skins*, '50s/'60s dancing and costumes, Prom King and Queen contest, and a preview showing of *Li'l Abner*. No host bar.

• **Times Beach:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn,

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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

B.A.R. INTERVIEW

Siouxsie and the Banshees

Gay Fans Appreciate Originality in an Era of MTV-Homogenized Rock

by Peter Keane

Some performers who have large Gay followings either skirt the issue or avoid it altogether, preferring not to alienate their mainstream (read heterosexual) fans. Not Siouxsie and the Banshees. This, the only print interview the band gave while in town recently, was given because I was from a Gay newspaper.

Siouxsie and the Banshees. Imagine Louise Brooks on acid, as painted by Gustav Klimt, and you get a good idea of what Siouxsie looks and dresses like. Dark and beautiful, she accentuates the contrast between her dark hair and eyes, and her pale porcelain-white skin. She's been around since the day of the London punk scene — that's 1976, in case you're a recent arrival from Mars — but is surprisingly young and enthusiastic. Great beauties never reveal their age, but I'd guess her to be 27.

The Banshees never achieved the notoriety of the Sex Pistols, or the commercial success of the Clash, to name two of their early contemporaries, but unlike the aforementioned, the group has remained true to its initial thrust. Their sound is thick and evocative, and heavy on the atmosphere. From the start they had artistic intentions, the kiss of death in punk. But that found them a loyal cult following, kept them fed, and brought them, as a four-piece touring unit, all too infrequently to American shores.

But wait — all that is about to change. The P.T. Barnum of the music industry, David Geffen, just signed the group to his label, and the star-making ma-

chinery is even now being cranked up full-tilt. In another year Siouxsie may be as big a household name as Ty-de-bowl. She takes it in stride. "We're still pumping out the same old garbage," she laughs heartily.

"Maybe the macho dude with the guitar is loath to (discuss Gay fans), but we've never shied away from that," Siouxsie says. "We've got lots of Gay fans. And they turn up in large numbers in the weirdest places. Like Texas."

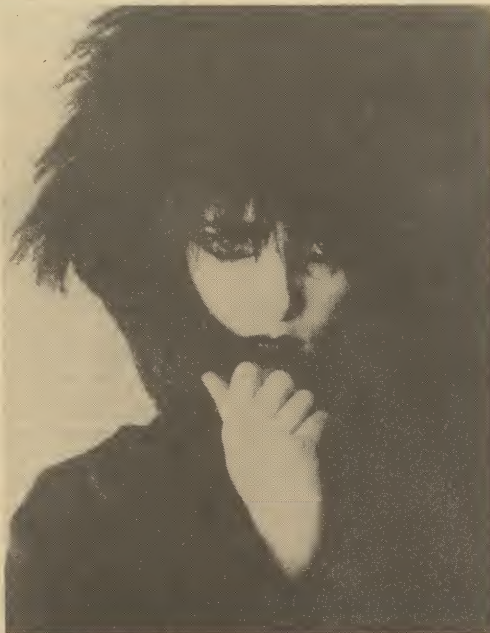
"You mean there are Gays in Texas?" I josh.

"Yes, silly," she says. "Hordes of them. In Houston, it was outrageous, this club we played in. It wasn't where we'd been scheduled to play, the stan-

dard rock club, because that had flooded or some such. We ended up playing in a disco palace that turned out to be the Gay truckers' hangout. It was really wild. They're a minority, the Gays in Texas, but they're alive and kicking.

"We seem to be quite popular with Gays in Italy, too," Siouxsie continued. "The last concert we played there was in Milan, in a huge circus tent. The promoters were pissed because they'd never seen so many boys at the front of the stage. It was a great atmosphere — more enjoyable than playing to a football crowd."

Now that the Banshees are playing to bigger audiences, the group still hasn't forgotten the



Siouxsie of Siouxsie and the Banshees

clubs, and club patrons, who helped them get there. Three years ago, the Banshees played the I-Beam, when it was still predominantly a Gay club.

"We enjoyed that show," Siouxsie says. "We were in a co-con and were probably the only ones who did."

(Continued on page 23)

On the Job: Gay People at Work

A Gay Pianist Flourishes in the Freedom of the SF Symphony

by Arthur S. Lazere

On a recent Sunday evening at Herbst Theatre, arrayed across the stage were a series of candelabra from which the soft light of long tapers flickered. Even before the artists performing that evening appeared, a special mood and atmosphere had been established. It wasn't a "big deal," the concept of a candlelight recital; it was a small, enhancing touch. I couldn't help but wonder if that something extra was the product of the sensibilities of the two artists who were performing, pianist Robin Sutherland and flutist Ransom Wilson. Both musicians are upfront Gays with national reputations.

Some part of me has always questioned the idea that floats around in both Gay and non-Gay circles that Gays have a special touch in interiors or with dinner parties or costumes. Is that not, surely, a bit of reverse bias stereotyping? To set the record straight, at least in this particular case, I asked Sutherland if the idea had been either his or Wilson's. "No," he said, "but next year we are planning a track-lighting recital."

Robin Sutherland was a member of that special subspecies, the child prodigy. His earliest tinklings at the keyboard were brought to the attention of Dr. Rita Hutcherson, then Chair of the piano department at the University of North Colorado. For fourteen years, starting at the age of four, Sutherland studied with Hutcherson. When he was twelve, his grandmother presented him with a shiny black Chickering grand piano. At that point things got serious indeed.

Born in Denver, Sutherland was adopted at birth and brought up in Greeley, a Colorado university town fifty miles to the north. Greeley, with a

population during Robin's childhood of some 20,000, is the county seat of a rich agricultural area. Sutherland remembers the pungent aroma of cow pats wafting on the summer breeze. "It smells like money to me!" he remembers his dad, always a Greeley booster, remarking. The family business, a commercial laundry and linens operation, dates back to Sutherland's maternal grandfather and accounts for his financially comfortable upbringing.

In 1960 teacher Hutcherson entered Robin, age nine, in his first piano competition. He won, but it proved to be the start of an intense dislike for competitions. "I loathe competition," he says. "I felt lousy when I won. I felt lousy when I lost. I'd win and I'd think, 'Well, somebody else just had a bad day; they could really outplay me.' The minute I came to my senses I stopped entering competitions. Unfortunately, it is damn near the only way of building a career as a pianist." Sutherland's peak in the competitive arena was as a finalist in the International Bach Competition in 1969. He has performed



Robin Sutherland

the entire keyboard works of Bach.

In was in 1969, too, that Sutherland left Greeley to enter the Julliard School in New York as a student of Rosina Lhevinne. Lhevinne, then 89 years old, was a world renowned teacher and, for Robin, a connection with the

great musical traditions of the past. 1969 was the year that Julliard moved downtown to its new quarters at Lincoln Center. "What a cold place, a giant marble country club," Sutherland says. "Infinitely to her credit, Lhevinne would only set foot in the place when it was absolutely required, even though they saved

her the best studio on the corner of the fifth floor. My lessons were at her apartment on Claremont Avenue in Morningside Heights. Julliard frightened me. Maybe that's where I started to loathe the competitive aspect. When you see people with their ears pressed up to practice room doors to find out what others were doing... What good does that do? It's cancerous, absolutely cancerous. I had very little to do with the school. I met the academic requirements, took my lessons at Morningside Heights, and stayed home and practiced."

After two years of this, Sutherland dropped out and escaped to Hawaii. Hawaii became the second great passion in his life, after the piano. He kept up his piano playing and even entered some competitions for food money. ("It was a poor time, the Monmartre segment of my life.") He has become fluent in the native Hawaiian language, has taken courses, and has studied Hawaiian language and culture with an emeritus professor from the University of Hawaii. He returns there often.

Sutherland next studied and taught at a junior college in Glenwood Springs, near Aspen, Colorado. (He returns to Glenwood Springs each summer and plays two recitals there.) Then, in 1972, he entered the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. While still an undergraduate at the Conservatory, at age 22, he was appointed principal pianist of the San Francisco Symphony by Seiji Ozawa. He completed his degree at the Conservatory in 1975.

With all this success and recognition, did he not want to be out on the major concert circuit? "I didn't want it. It's a lathsome life, flitting about

(Continued on page 23)

Simon Does It Again

by Bernard Spunberg

Glib, mechanical, conventional — so easy to dismiss Neil Simon's vast output with a few belittling adjectives. But there's a reason why Simon is so successful: Within his own modest parameters, Simon tells the emotional truth. So what if he's no stylistic trailblazer? So what if his themes don't change the course of history? Neil Simon writes with insight, humor, and love about feelings

everyone knows.

Simon's latest, *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, currently on-stage at the Curran in a touring production, is a memory play. Set in the Brighton Beach district of New York City in 1937, the action depicts personal growth and change among seven disparate family members. Simon's own persona is present in the form of a fifteen-year-old

boy who both participates in and comments on the action. The success of the current production is largely due to the charm of Jonathan Silverman, who plays that role.

Silverman expresses all the snide sarcasm and unbridled lust of your typical horny adolescent boy. His comic timing is that of a seasoned veteran. His superficial projection of emo-

tional vulnerability, however, betrays his inexperience.

Mark Nelson can give me masturbation lessons anytime. As the big brother of the family, Nelson conveys worldly sophistication when he advises little brother on the solitary compensations of male adolescence, and little-boy panic in confrontations with Pop.

Joan Copeland and Barbara Caruso are fine as the mother for whom every silver lining has a cloud, and her luckless, helpless, widowed sister, Wendy Gazelle is efficient as the sexy teenaged cousin, and Erin Lee Peck is eminently strangleable as her baby sister.

Charles Cioffi, as the over-worked man of the house, is tired to his marrow, but his characterization underlines the only thing out of focus in Gene Saks' direction, and perhaps in the play itself as well: Is this family Jewish or not? Now, you don't have to be Jewish to play a Jewish character, and you *do* not have to be Gay to play a Gay character. But when ethnicity is fundamental to a play's setting, a certain consistency becomes

important.

The mother of *Brighton Beach* despises her neighbor's Irishness, but when her sister makes a date with the man, the rest of the family is unconcerned. Little fragments of Jewishness surface throughout the play, only to quickly sink out of sight without being dealt with. Varying responses to Jewish culture within the same family are common, and Simon's family members are hardly implausible for their disparity. Still, there's something about *Brighton Beach* that feels white-washed, sterilized, a little bit turned down for the sake, perhaps, of Middle American sensibilities.

Jewishness notwithstanding, I really loved *Brighton Beach*. Neil Simon applies his art out of love for his characters, not for the gratification of his own ego. That love transcends cultural boundaries effortlessly. Now, could we please see the masturbation scene one more time? ■

Brighton Beach Memoirs
The Curran
Through August 5; 673-4400



Joan Copeland (l.) and Jonathan Silverman as Eugene in *Brighton Beach Memoirs*.

City Needs Volunteers

City Guides, the volunteer ambassadors sponsored by the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, is recruiting new members. City Guides give weekly tours of historic San Francisco sites such as Coit Tower, City Hall, Market Street, Pacific Heights, the Gold Rush Era around Portsmouth Square, and Moscone Center. They also staff the Fire Department and Presidio Museums.

Prospective City Guides must

go on five tours before the training period. Each guide must be committed to give six to eight hours of tours or other activities per month for two years.

Call Sue Haas, Volunteer Coordinator, 558-3770, for an application and appointment for an interview.

Training starts on Saturday, September 8, and runs through eight Saturday sessions on an irregular schedule until January 1985. ■

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STAGE

Ya, Ya, Nine

by John F. Karr

San Franciscans should feel absolutely privileged that *Nine* has come to town. Here is a big blockbuster musical with gorgeous spectacle, impudent sex, and beautiful song — all the traditional elements of a calculated hit. But with a courageously bold conception and some talented artists, *Nine* has transmuted Broadway's hoary formulas, reworking convention into a show that is contemporary, fresh, and sure to be seen as a milestone.

★ ★ ★

In 1943, predicting a flop, people said, "Musicals don't have murder in the second act." That show was *Oklahoma!* In 1941 the most respected New York critic nixed a show by writing, "You can't draw sweet water out of a foul well." That was *Pal Joey*. Yet these, and other shows of new conceptions and integrity of style, have become classics, while those that were just what the doctor ordered for the tired businessman have disappeared. I've long suspected the reason that businessman was tired was because of the imbecilities being thrown at him by most musicals.

And it's true that, as practiced on Broadway, the musical is usually a middleclass art form, concerned with validating mid-

dle class values and making money. So we can be especially thankful when a show like *Nine* comes along, not only meeting traditional Broadway criteria, but managing to revolutionize those criteria into exciting new forms.

Don't get worried. On the surface, *Nine* is boy has girl, boy loses girl, gets her back. But in detailing the mid-life and artistic crises of filmmaker Guido Contini, *Nine* has found a fresh way to tell that old boy-girl story. Since it's about a filmmaker, the unexplained shifts of time and locale we've come to expect in film are easily understood, especially with Guido's narration.

This narration is a marked change from the New York production, and indeed, the whole show has been so reworked it has a new title, *Nine — The Tour*. In an unprecedented occurrence, director Tommy Tune spent a month changing and rehearsing this touring version. Most of the changes are for the better. In New York, the story outline was subservient to a host of ideas and their physical manifestation in musical form. It was subtle, similar to chamber music in its intertwining of themes. This was, however, confusing to many, and much tightening and focusing has been wrought for the tour. The result has made a



*Tambourines to Glory. Saraghina (Camille Saviola) teaches the simplicity, the joy of love . . . especially the carnal variety, in *Nine*.*

nearly operatic, richly adventurous musical into a more accessible, controlled, and conventional Broadway show. Partisans will argue the difference for years, but in truth, the San Francisco version is a hard-hitting, exciting improvement with direct emotional appeal.

The score is a knockout, sometimes graceful, sometimes Rossinian in verve, and full of pop standards, exhilarating production numbers, and sweet ballads.

Star Sergio Franchi brings out the frequent Mascagni-rich harmonies of the orchestration and

is surrounded by a dream cast, an ensemble of stars. I love them all.

Despite the fact that Guido is strictly heterosexual and his problems all concern women, I find much of immediate concern to Gays — and certainly more than in *La Cage à Otello*. Among *Nine*'s subjects are an exploration of the male psyche, a probing of the Peter Pan syndrome, a concern for style and its expression, plus a basically feminist attitude. Until everything falls apart and he's left alone, Guido is unaware of the functions the women around him have filled. In the show's climax, the song "Being Tall," Guido attains the mature values he's never paused to think about. They're traditional values but become more meaningful as our world becomes faster, more fragmented. They also have a special, current resonance for Gay men: "Everyone wants everyone in sight, but knowing you have no one if you try to have them all . . . is part of getting tall."

In 1982, *Nine*'s more cerebral New York incarnation won a raft of Tonys, including Best Musical and Best Score. It's fun to have it in town simultaneously with 1983's winner, *La Cage à Otello*. *Nine*'s flash camouflages a weak structure. *Nine* has flash, frolic, a superior score, plus a loving heart. The Best of Times is *Nine*. ■

Nine
Orpheum Theatre
Through August 18; 474-3800

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Good Ladies

by Bernard Spunberg

Flouncing ever onward, the Ladies Against Women continued their courageous battle against sexual liberation and social justice in their current show, *Bad Mothers*, now onstage at the People's Theater Coalition. Why, oh, why do these dear, sweet Ladies have to work so hard? Their commitment to their cause sends them to countless left wing extremist anti-nuke and feminist rallies where they risk jostling by braless female hordes shamelessly flaunting their flat shoes, short hair, and faces devoid of even a smidge of lipstick. The Ladies' dainty picket signs express the most indisputable concepts: "You're Nobody Until You're Mrs. Somebody," "Misterhood Is Powerful," and "It's Not Ladylike to Accept Money for Work."

Bad Mothers doesn't have much to do with bad mothers, but it does present the Ladies' own political convention, with inspiring keynote speeches by Phyllis Le Shaft and Reverend Jerry Fallout. The Ladies' platform has planks to cure every social ill. The Bill of Rights, for example. Let's dump it.

Of course, the Ladies Against Women has a Men's Auxiliary. The Shrapnel Brothers also have their own independent organization called the National Association of Grenade Owners.



Part of the cast of *Bad Mother*.

Though the Shrapnels have trouble remembering whether their shoes or socks go on first, a more red-blooded and patri-

otic group of men cannot be found.

Bad Mothers begins with a cinematic triumph by Lauren Lazin, which features the Ladies in tasteful interviews, as well as fearlessly confronting the evil forces of personal freedom. As the head Lady, Mrs. Theodore William Banks — "But you can call me Mrs. T-Bill" — rousinglly sings there should be "No freedom! No freedom! No freedom! Except for me!" ■

Ladies Against Women
People's Theater Coalition
Through August 5; 776-8999

Are You Creative?

Aphra Press, a new publisher of feminist books, is seeking two creative works of Lesbian fiction for publication during 1985.

In addition to fiction, Aphra also will publish Lesbian and feminist biographies and short stories. Aphra does not plan to publish poetry.

Inquiries and typed manuscripts may be sent to: Carolyn Netzer, Editor, Aphra Press, H.S.J. Box 867, Springfield, MO 65801.

Manuscripts will be returned if accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope. ■

For Love or Money

Cycle of Oppression

by Adele Prandini

In 1778 thousands of women were imprisoned in England on petty theft charges. The women were starving, and many, many of these women were then shipped to Australia and "doled out to men like supplies." In the beginning the women and the Aboriginal people shared the same lot — those who were not killed were forced to become slaves to the White man.

For Love or Money, a film which took five years to make, is publicized as the first Australian women's labor history film. Australia's history is hauntingly similar to our own. Both the Aborigine and Native American peoples suffered near genocide at the hands of European invaders. And, the plight of women in Australia over the past two hundred years is nearly identical to the historical experience of American women.

Much like the film *Rosie the Riveter*, *For Love or Money* exposes the way women workers have been exploited by society. In the beginning it is brutality that enslaves both women and the Aboriginal people. Later, as technology advances, more sophisticated techniques become the acceptable form of incarceration. In a film clip we hear the dashing young gentleman ask

his pretty but unhappy wife, "What? Would you upset the fundamental law between a man and a woman, that a husband's life is her life?" While men and women are discussing fundamental law, the Aboriginal people are being herded onto a reservation. Families are being broken up in an effort to destroy the culture of the native people, a tactic employed in America with the Native American people.

The film successfully holds our attention because it avoids heavy rhetoric. We are presented with images and are left alone to draw our own conclusions.

For Love or Money is at times funny, at times painful, and definitely thought-provoking. As Gay and Lesbian people we have much in common with women and people of color. We are brutalized by society. When we learn our place, we are offered the carrot of assimilation. The cycle is undisturbed. Currently there are lots of carrots being dangled, which makes *For Love or Money* a very timely film.

There is something about the film that made me terribly uncomfortable. Though the history of women's oppression is very



The women responsible for *For Love or Money*: (l. to r.) Margo Nash, Megan McMurchy, Jeni Thornley, and Margo Oliver.

detailed, the history of the Aborigine is sketchy. By omission, the film makes a statement about division, one that we can learn from.

Go see *For Love or Money*, for it offers emotional nourishment, and a great excuse for sitting down in between all the

demonstrations.

York Theater, July 23, 9 p.m.

STAGE

Companion Pieces

by John F. Karr

No, they're not together for the first time. But James Whitmore's impersonation of Will Rogers, and Ruth Hastings' recital of Jacques Brel are swell companion pieces. They share a compassionate, yet frequently pointed and mordant, vision of simple people.

James Whitmore's *Will Rogers' U.S.A.* is a quiet *tour de force*. Quiet because Rogers himself was quiet. Of wildly mixed ancestry, he forged a uniquely American performing identity in the melting pot of turn of the century vaudeville. His Oklahoma drawl and front-porch-chat approach were a far cry from the prevailing dialect comedians. His iconoclastic comments marked him as the progenitor of the school of comedy as social criticism which included Lenny Bruce and Dick Gregory.

Whitmore's acting is so natural you'll believe Will himself is here. The script covers ground, presenting Will as the original bead reader — politics, motherhood, slogans, commercialism, and the rich are all knocked with deadpan glee. This quaintly nos-

talgie show would be merely pleasant if the satire wasn't still all too timely. At the Geary Theatre through August 5.

★ ★ ★

In one of Brel's moving comments on contemporary life, Ruth Hastings sings, "We forget how to cry, we save photographs instead." While Ruth was gone all we had were her photos. Now

that the gifted actress and singer is back, we can laugh and cry and rejoice again as she unlocks the wise, emotional depths of Brel's songs. The current show is much improved from previous editors. Ruth is using her talents with greater subtlety, and several new songs have been added. Philosophers babble monotonously on; Brel does it all in his melodic, unique songs. A rich and recommended evening. Ruth and associates will be at 132 Bush, Thursday through Saturday nights until August 4.



Ruth Hastings

Robin Sutherland, Gay Pianist

(Continued from previous page)

has never felt threatened or experienced homophobia from any quarter. "It is Edo's personal directive that sexual orientation not be taken into account in hir-

ing. It is not to be a consideration. It's cancerous, absolutely cancerous. I had very little to do with the school."

— Robin Sutherland

Happily, my further queries at the Symphony confirm that discrimination has not been a problem. I spoke with Jerry Spain, President of Musicians Local #6; Jim Callahan, orchestra personnel manager, and Peter Shelton, a cellist with the Symphony since 1978 and also an upfront

excellence supercedes the petty things that divide people." All emphasized that the only thing that matters is how well the musician plays the music.

There are eight or nine upfront Gay members of the Symphony and, it is not unreasonable to assume, a few closeted members. In an organization of 105 musicians, that would appear to be a reasonable propor-

tion. While recognizing the remarkable attitude of acceptance that prevails there, nonetheless, a nondiscrimination clause on sexual orientation in the Symphony's union contract is awaited.

Shelton summed up his thoughts about Sutherland: "His is an incredible natural talent. It is so easy to take the perfection of his playing for granted, because he is so consistent. There is nothing musical that he can't do."

It is a tribute to the music director, the musicians, the Symphony organization, and the city of San Francisco that gifted people like Robin Sutherland can flourish here in freedom.

A.S. Lazere

One of a continuing series of profiles of successful, upfront Lesbians and Gays.

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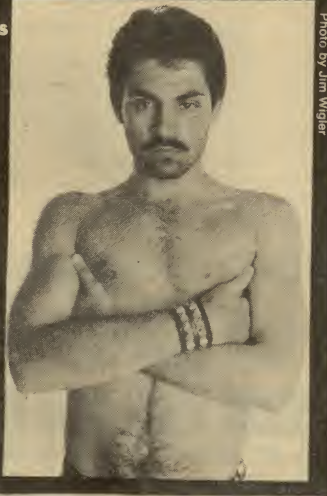


Photo by Jim Wagner

Volcano

Mount St. Malcolm

Do writers live more interesting lives than anybody else, or do they just make life sound more interesting? *Volcano: An Inquiry into the Life of Malcolm Lowry* makes that writer's life sound interesting. It also whets our appetites for *Under the Volcano*, John Huston's film of his celebrated novel, much as *Burden of Dreams* built anticipation for *Fitzcarraldo*.

Malcolm Lowry was born near Liverpool in 1909 and died in 1957 of an overdose of sleeping pills. The inquest ruled it "death by misadventure," and it is said that "he was known to have had a compulsion to stuff things in his mouth indiscriminately," but many still suspect suicide.

Lowry's life in England, New York, Canada, and Mexico is suggested in staged scenes and stock footage, while his words are read by Richard Burton and writer/director/narrator Donald Brittain. These episodes keep the "talking heads" format down to about half the running

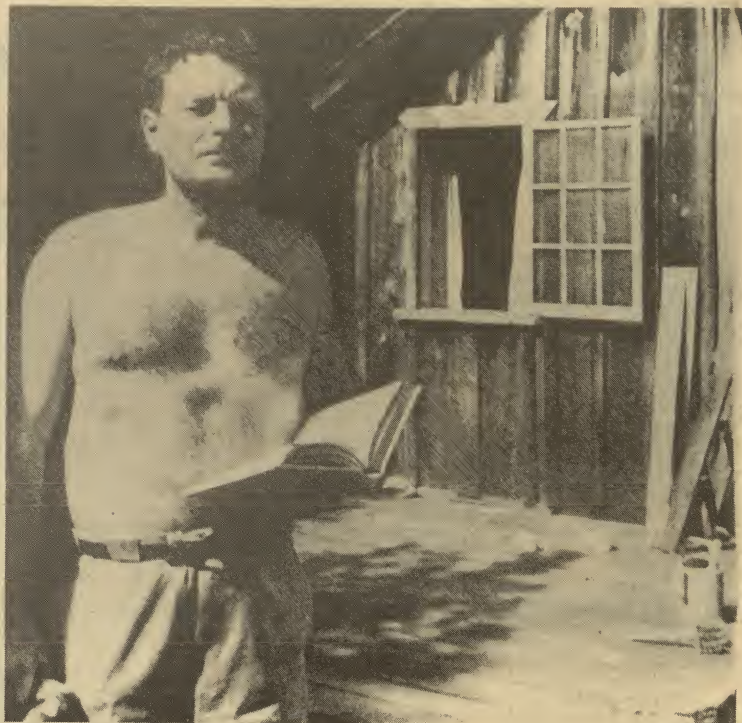
time. The Mexican segments illustrate episodes from *Under the Volcano*, while adding biographical insight, as Lowry was known to have based the main character, the alcoholic Consul, on himself.

Lowry's father was "a compulsive bodybuilder . . . the best developed man in England." An old schoolmaster informs us, "All the Lowry boys were very good looking," and we can draw our own conclusions about him. Malcolm had a talent for farting on cue, and was, in school, "a figure of fun on bath nights . . . because of his tiny penis." A fellow student at Cambridge killed himself after Lowry rejected his advances.

His homosexual encounters in New York, where he went with his first wife in the early '30s, are discussed briefly, but it's suggested that he may have been either impotent or too drunk to perform. He worked nearly a decade on *Under the Volcano*, but after it was published his impotence spread to his writing, and he never turned out another book of consequence. ■

(Castro, July 26-27)

S. Warren



Volcanic — Described by his sister-in-law as "studiedly picturesque," author Malcolm Lowry is the subject of *Volcano*, paired with *Burroughs* for two days at the Castro.

Electric Dreams

Viewer-Friendly

Electric Dreams brings new meaning to the idea of computer dating. This silly little movie is easy to fall in

love with, and should be this summer's sleeper. Last year it was *WarGames*, this year it's *LoveGames* — which would have been a better title.

First-feature director Steve Barron cut his teeth on music videos, including Michael Jackson's "Billie Jean," so he

has a tendency to be visually manic. His relentless search for new ideas and angles makes him overload *Electric Dreams* with visual gimmicks the way *Top Secret!* is overloaded with gags. He scores with enough of them to keep things energized.

The basic plot is a romantic triangle — boy, girl, and computer. Lenny von Dohlen, who rivals Tom Hanks for New Comic Actor of the Year, buys a personal computer (voiced by Bud Cort) at about the same time Virginia Madsen moves in upstairs in his San Francisco duplex. The computer, overloaded with input, goes haywire in the tradition of the great screen computers of 2001: *A Space Odyssey*, *Demon Seed*, and *Colossus* — The Forbin Project.

Lenny explains love to the computer so it can write Virginia a song, which comes out played by Culture Club. How do you explain Boy George to a computer? But the machine falls in love with Virginia itself, precipitating a comic climax and a sentimental resolution.

Electric Dreams is a viewer-friendly movie for people who don't know too much about computers. Those who do may find it hard to accept the inconsistencies of Rusty Lemorande's script, even though it's labled a "fairy tale for computers." The high tech theme, the soft rock score, and the dominant role of the woman in a male-female relationship make it very much a movie of today, one to put in a time capsule to remember 1984 by. ■

(Galaxy)

S. Warren



Two Out of Three Ain't Bad Looking — Virginia Madsen (L) and Lenny von Dohlen are involved with a computer that gets too personal in *Electric Dreams*.

The Neverending Story

Fantasy Island

When *The Neverending Story* emerged on the adult bestseller lists around the world, it indicated that all of us were quite hungry for some innocent fantasy world fiction, even if it was directed to kids.

Wolfgang Petersen (*Das Boot*) has directed the film version, about a young boy who escaped the reality of schoolyard bullies and distant fathers by climbing into the pages of a special book titled *The Neverending Story*.

Filled with wondrous sets and costumes inspired by the illustrations of children's books, a pulsating synthesizer score by Giorgio Moroder and Klaus Doldinger, and a completely simplistic but involving script, the film transports our hero and us, via Magic

Dragon, Stone Eaters, Gnomes, and other benign creatures, into the land of Fantasia. Apparently, the land is being overtaken by a great Nothingness that consumes everything into a vacuum void. The only way it can be stopped is for a human child to give the childlike Empress of Fantasia a new name. And so the boy reading the book enters the book and saves the day for fantasy and imagination.

Heavyhanded imagery, and a certain amount of patronizing see-what-we-mean explanatory dialogue, are there for the children. Lots of Jungian symbols and existential prattle are thrown in for the adults. And while the film is quite fascinating, it's never magical.

The Neverending Story is a head trip, not an affair of the heart. It has body, but no soul. It is entertaining, but not, alas, enchanting. So if the film doesn't fulfill completely our hunger for rich fantasy, it at least whets our appetite. ■

(Alexandria)

M. Lasky

Irezumi

Patterns of Sexism

The tattoo artist in *Irezumi* paints dragons as phallic as the needles he uses; but since symbolism is too subtle for some people, he also fucks the women as he's tattooing them. He apparently doesn't work on men.

We meet him at the time of his last tattoo. He lets his apprentice/son assist by sticking the client in the front while daddy needles her in back. "When it hurts, cling to him," the old man instructs. If that eases the pain, Masaki Kyomoto, the actor who plays his son, can give me a local anesthetic anytime.

The tattooee is the mistress of a man with a strange fetish. He can't resist a woman with beautiful skin, but he views her skin as an artist does a fresh canvas, and sends her out to be tattooed. Compounding what may be the

(Continued on next page)

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Tit for Tatoo — Tomisaburo Wakayama (top) tattoos a dragon on Masayoshi Miyamoto while Masayoshi Miyamoto (bottom) tries to make that dragon fly, in *Irezumi*.

(Continued from previous page)

ultimate sexism is the fact that this man's appearance is as wormlike as his thinking. More phallic symbolism, perhaps.

There's more happening here than the Western mind can fathom, at least through subtitles. The preview audi-

ence was polite and/or asleep, but a few rowdies in the house could really change the mood. Director Yoichi Takabayashi displays some talent in his visual style, and the subject matter should appeal to a certain kinky segment of the audience. ■

(Clay)

S. Warren

Another Country/ Another Angle

According to the *Sun*, a London tabloid that makes our *Chronicle* look like the New York (or London) *Times*, one of the students in *Another Country* is played by Princess Diana's younger brother, Viscount Althorp.

"Di's Kid Brother in Gay Spy Film," trumpets the

headline. Labeling him a hell-raiser, the article says, "The 19-year-old Viscount is just right for his role as a senior boy." They're not referring to the Gay aspect of the film, however, as they go on to rehash Althorp's "16-month romance" with one Lucy Stiles. ■

S. Warren



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One Night Stands

Films of Gay Interest This Coming Week

by Michael Benzry

Thursday, July 26: (Strand) *Boys from Riverside Drive*. An apartment building full of ready, willing, and able stuff. With Just Blonds with just blonds.

Thursday-Friday, July 26-27: (Castro) *Burroughs*. Entertaining look at William S. Burroughs, who wrote and lived sex and drugs. With *Volcano: An Inquiry Into the Life and Death of Malcolm Lowry*, writer of *Under the Volcano*.

Thursday-Tuesday, July 26-31: (York) *Mai Zetterling's Scrubbers*. Violence and Lesbianism in a reform school. Tough but insightful.

Sunday, July 29: (Castro) *Two ambisexual roles for Michael York*. Cabaret, one of the great musicals, is about fortune hunters in Nazi Germany.

Black comedy *Something for Everyone* finds York using his charm and body for fun and fortune.

Sunday-Monday, July 29-30: (Red Victorian) *Suddenly Last Summer* by Tennessee Williams with Taylor, Hepburn, and Clift. A tormented Liz Taylor remembers the events leading to her Gay cousin's death. Gives new meaning to the phrase, "Eat me."

Monday, July 30: (Strand) Visconti directs. *Death in Venice*. Visually stunning but slow. An aging artist cruises a beautiful boy forever, then dies without even saying "Hi." Ludwig, Mad King of Bavaria. Helmut Berger is the bi-Bavarian.

Tuesday-Wednesday, July 31-August 1: (Red Victorian) *A Wedding*. Hilarious Altman film. What man is making it with the groom in the shower? What woman is seducing the bride?

Wednesday, August 1: (Strand) *Liana*. Housewife faces obstacles when she comes out of the closet. *Entre Nous*. Two women find strength in each other to survive war and marriage.

Thursday, August 2: (UC Theatre) *Death in Venice* and *The Leopard*. Two too-long Visconti masterpieces.

(Strand) The old and new image of Gays on film. In *The Boys in the Band*, Gays are desperate to find themselves in straight society. In the brilliant and explicit *Taxi Zum Klo*, Gays are still looking, but straight society is no longer relevant. A Gay school teacher in Berlin is torn between the fast lane and his lover at home.

(York) *Privates on Parade*. Campy British Army in Asia makes for campy comedy. *How I Won the War* with John Lennon, which does not address whether Brian Epstein ever slept with John. ■

Best Defense

Worst Offense

I'm afraid to be too hard on Dudley Moore's latest comedy (?), *Best Defense*, because the ASPCA is bound to protest that I am being cruel to defenseless dogs.

Moore plays a schnook — what other role is there for him? — engineer at a military arms development company. He blunders onto stolen documents that help save his company from losing a big contract, but which are for

defective equipment — what other type does the military order? Two years later Lt. Eddie Murphy gets stuck with the dud equipment in the Kuwaitian desert.

Now let's talk about desert. We're talking wasteland here. This film takes cheap, tasteless, unfunny potshots at Blacks, Arabs, Mexicans, and assorted Orientals — and, oh yes, women. For all you Eddie Murphy lovers, and I know that just everybody adores him, I must report that he appears for just 15 of the 2,898 minutes of the film's running time.

Moore, who is becoming decidedly less with each succeeding film he makes, is hopelessly boring. Of course, the material supplied by writer/producer/directors Gloria Katz and Willard Huyck — whose last film was *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom* — is so atrocious that Moore never had a chance. Of course, he could have refused to do the film. Your best defense is to avoid the vicinity of the Royal Theatre for the next few days — until the stink clears. ■

(Royal)

M. Lasky



Dudley Moore (r.) and Kate Capshaw in *Best Defense*.

BOOK RACK

Pace, John Wayne

Men and Friendship
by Stuart Miller
Houghton-Mifflin

by Frank J. Howell

It is truly sad when heterosexual males eye each other suspiciously and carefully exclude the possibility of closeness and warmth. The genuine jock must always win regardless.

I can still recall my father pushing me away whenever I sought to be hugged as a grade school boy. Today he and my brother always greet me with a formal handshake.

Men and Friendship author Stuart Miller has rubbed

shoulders with human warmth as a former director of the Esalen Institute. He has produced the definitive sourcebook on encounter groups, *Hot Springs*, and is a resident of the Bay Area.

Miller dissects the curious malady of male coldness. He finds that an all-pervasive fear of homosexuality looms as the prime obstacle.

When Stuart was about to commence doing research on the present book, a middle-aged professor remarked, "Male friendship. You mean you're going to write about homosexuality? That's what everyone will think, at least. Could be danger-

ous for you."

In a chapter devoted to the Gay side of male friendship Miller states that Gays never take such relationships for granted. It is precious as gold. We can easily separate sex and friendship. In the Orient, for example, straight men can sleep together and never feel the anxiety that American males would experience in such a situation.

Miller finds that women take to cozy contact easily and share the small details of daily life. They will explore private sexual events that straight males only approach on a very broad scale.

Men and Friendship will make a notable addition to the growing literature on Men's Liberation. May John Wayne rest in peace. ■

BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

FITNESS EIGHTIES

KAPLAN CASTELLANO

He Made a Decision to be Fit and Stuck to It

by Paul Trefzger

Kaplan Castellano considered himself a skinny, far from fit person in the spring of 1983. He was five-feet eleven-inches and one hundred thirty-five pounds. It was then he decided to do something about it. He joined a gym (Central YMCA). He quit drinking and smoking. He began running in the morning. He made it a point to eat as much as he could, particularly high protein food. He decided on a thrice weekly workout, and even added getting more sun to his scheme to improve his overall appearance and feeling of well-being.

It worked. Fourteen months later, he looks and feels great, but admits he has further to go.

"You have to discipline yourself," he said. "I used to drink every weekend, to excess. Now I have an occasional drink. I stopped smoking. I haven't gone back, and this is the longest time." He knows he won't return to smoking now.

"I really hate it," he says. "It stinks. It's terrible." In general, he can't even imagine himself returning to his former lifestyle.

"It's very important because I know I look, as well as feel, healthy now," he says. I asked if friends had commented on the difference.

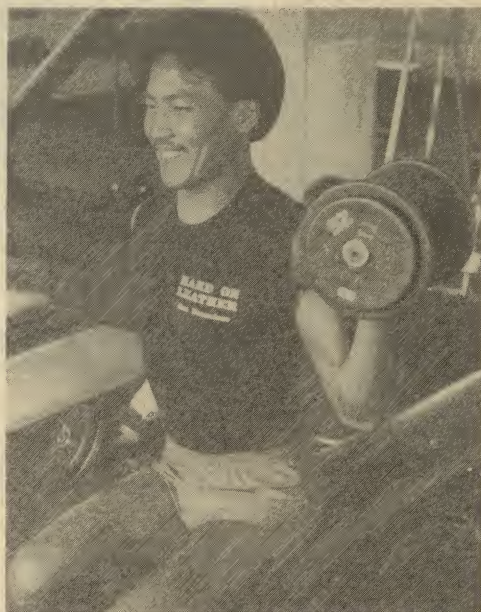
"Oh yeah. I joined (The Y) May 3, 1983, and since then I've gained twenty pounds," he said. "Sometimes I'm as high as 159 pounds and my waist stays the

same. I could use more on my arms, though. I never watch what I eat, since I used to be really skinny. I eat all the time. I'm not kidding."

I asked if Kap had a particular diet. "I eat a lot of greens and meat," he said. "Red meat?" I asked. "Oh yeah," he said. He has a special breakfast drink.

"It's one and a half tablespoons of Great Earth protein powder, a tall glass of apple juice, and a banana mixed in a blender." This is breakfast, but Castellano also has it after dinner as a dessert. I asked if he avoided sugar and junk food.

"I'll have it once in a while, but I know I burn it up," he said. He wanted readers to be aware that he also takes protein pills (Free Form Aminos, also from Great Earth) and multivitamins (two each) every day.



Kaplan Castellano on the free weights. (Photo: Rink)

"I also eat four bananas a day," he says.

Kaplan was born May 29, 1953, on a farm in a small town just north of Manila in the Phillipine Islands. He came with his family to the United States in 1971 when he was eighteen. His family now lives in Sacramento. When he was in

school he ran track, "relays, everything," played softball and table tennis. He made it a point to let me know that he was a singer, not only in the glee club, but solo. Castellano now lives in downtown San Francisco.

His workout consists of forty-five minutes of stretches with a lot of emphasis on legs, and on

arms, waist, and neck as well. He said he tried aerobics but prefers the stretches, which he learned from an instructor, as a warm-up.

Prior to his coming to the gym, however, he has already put his body through some paces. He wakes at 5:30 and runs "at least two miles every day." He does the same on weekends but starts a little later.

In the gym, after his stretches, he goes to the Nautilus equipment. There, he makes the rounds of each machine, pushing each muscle group to "muscle failure." After that it's free weights, and he does everything with them he was taught to do. This takes about an hour. Then Kap uses the Universal equipment for thirty to forty minutes. His workouts concentrate quite a bit on his biceps. His total workout time varies from three to three and a half hours each time he goes to the gym.

I asked Castellano if he had any advice for people considering a fitness program.

"If you're ready to get your butt settled down and you're finished partying, it's time to really do something for yourself for a change," he said. "Something that's good for you. It'll change your life. I think everybody should do something. Even if it's jogging. You have to set limits, too. Too much of anything can be bad. You have to make a decision and a commitment, and when that time comes, then you'll do it." ■

CORNER POCKET

Rule Changes

The long-smouldering controversy regarding non-Gay participation in the San Francisco Pool Association was decided last Tuesday. By a tally of 19-2, the proposed policy that would have required each team to have at least 50% Gay players was defeated. Most of those present agreed that the proposal would be difficult to enforce, and would be an extreme means of dealing with a relatively minor problem.

Support for the proposal was surprisingly lacking in view of the years of rumors and amount of discussion that preceded the meeting. Two other proposals relevant to the issue were also defeated. One would have the phrase "A Gay League" put on all trophies, T-shirts, and other mementos, another would have eliminated cash prizes at the All-Star tournament.

Only three of the ten proposals will be added to the books: One was the rule proposed in this column (Bay Area Reporter 3/8/84), awarding ball-in-hand anywhere on the table when sinking opponent's ball on a foul. Another new policy increases the annual 9-ball championship matches from five to nine game sets.

League President Dennis Hall was so incensed by the lack of participation last season he proposed raising the seasonal dues from \$12 to \$25 and sending the weekly mail to everyone.

It had been the practice to send the standings to only the team captains and sponsors. At Tuesday's meeting, the hike was compromised to \$20 and the proposal passed 20 to 1.

COORS REBATE?

At the meeting, following a brief discussion on the ethics of allowing Coors to sponsor league events — they donated \$1000 towards WCC travel expenses — E.Z. said "I think we should give them back their \$1000," and pledged \$100. Roger Asai of Pilsner agreed and also pledged \$100. The Coors issue apparently will be a hot potato for some time.

WCC IX: DELUXE BOWS TO SAN DIEGO

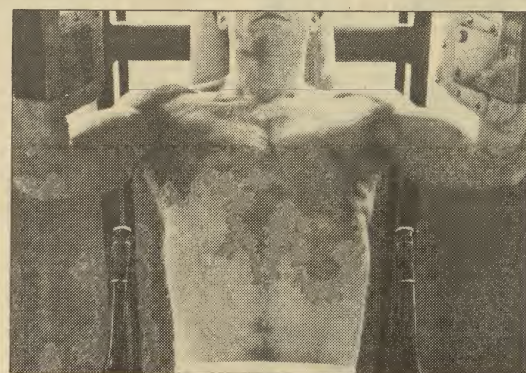
Since West Coast Challenge V, San Diego has provided better and better teams, and this time they produced one that gave them their first team victory. Again a Mr. Dillons team (their 4th SD title), this time with Rich Augustini, David Heinen, Ed Wybensinger, and Dillons owner Bill McClellan, rolled past the Spike of Los Angeles 9-3, July 13, and topped SF's DeLuxe Spare Tires 9-6 the next morning. In that afternoon's elimination round, DeLuxe flattened LA 9-1, and focused on the next day's task of beating San Diego twice to retain the trophy.

Things looked pretty bleak for SF that morning when they were trailing 2-7 in the race to nine, but the DeLuxe players (Owen Bubar, E.Z., Dave Timko, Brian Kelly, Rick Moore) began stroking as they had in the city championship and came within a game of SD at 7-8. This brought up Bill McClellan, a former champion in the singles

event, against SF's Owen Bubar. An 8-8 tie would have meant a seven-game overtime, but McClellan neatly eliminated that possibility, running all eight balls from the opening break. San Diego fans and players whooped, hugged, kissed gulped champagne, and bathed in the glow of a salvo of flashbulbs. In the singles competition,

Peter Fleury was the best SF finisher at 4th place. Wally Sutherland of Los Angeles (a curious 0-6 in the team matches), won the singles event undefeated, followed by Frank Bustamante and Dan O'Neill, also of Los Angeles.

Teams Forming for Fall Season
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G.S.L. UPDATE

Kokpit Earns Final Playoff Spot

TOM VINDEED

Knowing they had to win at least one of their remaining two games to make the playoffs, the Kokpit upset The Village 10-4 to highlight Sunday's schedule. Paced by David Bontelle's towering homerun and Marty Orlando's timely triple, the Kokpit served notice that it is ready to make up for previous disappointments this season. The Kokfighters will vie against Moby Dick in the first round of the playoffs. This Sunday the Kokpit will hold an auction to help send the team to Tulsa for a Labor Day Softball Tournament. Action starts at 4 p.m. with a buffet being served.

The Vagabond scored the second upset of the day by downing the Pilsner Inn 6-3. Dan Carlson's crew has its sights set on a third place finish in the Golden Gate Division. This Sunday the Vagabond will host an End of the Season Party starting at 5 p.m. All GSL teams and friends are encouraged to join in the fun at 800 Larkin. A fabulous buffet will be served along with happy hour drink prices.

In other action, Rawhide edged Chaps 5-3, the Pendulum humbled the Phone Booth 23-3, Googies' thumped the Rookies 21-1, Trax downed Cafe Sn. Marcos 8-6, and Moby Dick

defeated the DeLuxe.

The Ambush had a bye, and the league thanks the scheduling committee.

This Sunday is the final week of the regular season with all games being played at Jackson Field:

10 a.m. Phone Booth/Rookies and Kokpit/Pendulum
11:45 a.m. Ambush/Village and Pilsner Inn/Moby Dick
1:30 p.m. DeLuxe/Cafe Sn. Marcos and Googies'/Chaps
3:15 p.m. Rawhide/Vagabond.

STANDINGS

Cable Car Division		
Ambush	13	0
Pendulum	12	1
Moby Dick	11	2
Rawhide	9	4
Chaps	6	7
DeLuxe	4	9
Phone Booth	3	10
Golden Gate Division		
Village	10	3
Kokpit	8	5
Pilsner Inn	6	7
Vagabond	5	8
Googies'	5	8
Cafe Sn. Marcos	4	9
Trax	2	12
Rookies	0	13

WILD AND WOOLLY

BOB WOOLHOUSE

Quips & Quotes

"I'm always looking for meaningful one night stands."

— Dudley Moore

"Use your cock as a tool, not a weapon." Also: "A couple of restaurants on Castro Street, does not constitute a culture."

— Rita Mae Brown

"Lie, if you must, but never in detail, or to yourself."

— Coco Chanel

"The biggest threat to romance is a sense of humor."

— Oscar Wilde

"There is time enough to do everything important. You may have to give up cruising, staying at the party until 4 a.m., lunching with girlfriends, suffering fools, stuff like that; but time is ample."

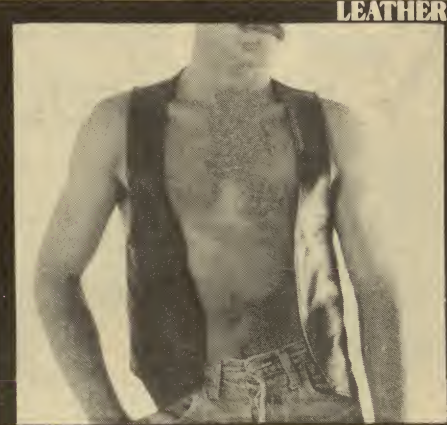
— Helen Gurley Brown

"Life is what happens to us while we're making other plans."

— Ted Knight

"The meek shall inherit the earth, but not its mineral rights."

— John Paul Getty



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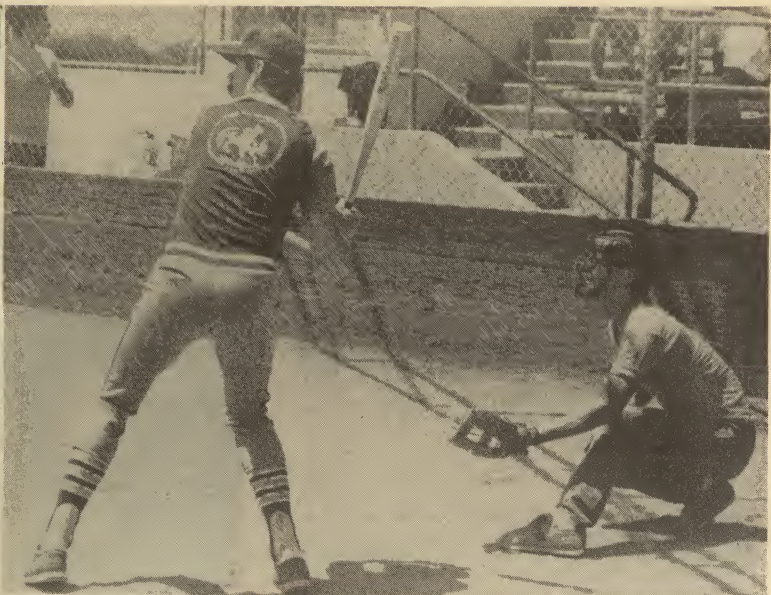
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Rawhide's Harry Rall at bat in the Rawhide vs. Rookies game last week. (Photo: Rink)

COMM. SOFTBALL LEAGUE

RODGER SOTO

Big Winners - Everett's of SF vs. RCC/BATS

The 1984 Community Softball League season has three full weeks of regular play remaining with all ten teams still in the running for the playoffs. The parity of the league continues, with each team capable of defeating any of the other teams on any given day.

Everett's of San Francisco continued on a roll by winning its last seven games, particularly its big 11-1 victory over Hot & Hunky, the Julie Jordan division leader. Everett's was in the cellar just a month ago, and is now one game out of first place. Norm Smith's club had complete control both defensively and in hitting. Everett's second win displayed great defense ability, and was won in the final inning 6 to 3.

The other big winner of the day was Carl McMurdo's Rainbow Cattle/BATS with a 10-3 victory over a lackluster Nap's. The team then went on to a 6-0 shutout over Rockin' Robin. The RBCC/BATS' talent im-

proves weekly, and the team undoubtedly will be in contention for the championship.

In other action, Rockin' Robin came bouncing back after its first defeat of the day to trample Slow-Rush 12-6. The Robins' displayed its best hitting so far this season. Slow-Rush continues to be "hot and then cold," and followed true to form by clobbering Nap's in its second game 16-2.

The other two victorious teams for the day were the Bunkhouse over the Force 7-2, and the Cinch also over the Force 10-2. The Force experienced fielding problems all day, but are in no way to be considered out of the running for the playoffs. The Bunkhouse retains its first place position in the Chapman division.

CSL SCOREBOARD

Slow Rush	16	Nap's	2
Rainbow/Bats	6	Rockin Robin	0
Rockin Robin	12	Slow Rush	6
Nap's	3	Rainbow/Bats	10

Everett's	11	Hot & Hunky	1
Bunkhouse	7	Force	2
Cinch	10	Force	2
Everett's	6	Jack's	3

STANDINGS

Julie Jordan Division

Hot & Hunky	10-4
Everett's	9-5
Slow Rush	7-8
Jack's	6-8
Nap's	6-8

Bill Chapman Division

Bunkhouse	10-5
Rainbow/Bats	8-7
Force	6-8
Cinch	6-9
Rockin Robin	4-9

Games on July 29th Lang Field:

10:30 a.m. Hot & Hunky/Slow Rush

12:00 noon. Bunkhouse/Rainbow-Bats and Rockin Robin/Hot & Hunky

1:30 p.m. Nap's/Everett's and Rockin Robin/Force

3:00 p.m. Everett's/Jacks and Force/Cinch.

SCOREBOARD

JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES

TEAM STANDINGS

(league averages unavailable)

SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE

(Week 6 of 16 - as of 7/15/84)

1. Vagabond	19	5
2. M M W!	15	9
3. Doll Friends	14	10
4. F. Gumm Mem.	14	10
5. Bingo Bongo	13	11
6. Joanie's Boys	13	11
7. Master Blasters	12	12
8. The Dreamers	10	14
9. Queen Pins	10	14
10. Vinnie and Vamps	9	15
11. Late Cumers	8	16
12. Desilu	7	17

MONDAY AFTERNOON COMM. LEAGUE

(Week 8 of 12 - as of 7/16/84)

1. Team #3	20	12
2. Team #2	16½	15½
3. Team #4	14	18
4. Vagabond	12½	19½

MONDAY COMM. LEAGUE

(Week 6 of 16 - as of 7/9/84)

1. Play With It, Ltd.	17	7
2. Play With It, Also!	17	7
3. Blue Balls	16	8
4. Vagabond	15	9
5. Team #13	14	10
6. Bow-K	13	11
7. Obelisk Crystal Ball	13	11
8. Dead Puppies	12½	11½
9. Castro Entry Club	11	13

10. Team #11	9	15
11. Blazers	8½	15½
12. Team #12	7	17
13. Short Circuits	7	17
14. R.P.M.	5	19

TUESDAY COMM. LEAGUE

(Week 7 of 17 - as of 7/10/84)

1. Hot Rollers	21	7
2. El Rio Tartarugas	21	7
3. Overnights	17½	10½
4. Oh Merde!	17	11
5. Chiquita's Bananas	17	11
6. Pinheads	15	13
7. Mixed Company	14	14
8. Hopeless	13½	14½
9. Rude Prudes	12	16
10. Trolley Dolly's	12	16
11. Ethel	11	17
12. No Wire Hangers	11	17
13. Ms. Fitts	9	19
14. Daddy's Boys	7	21

WEDNESDAY COMM. LEAGUE

(Week 8 of 16 - as of 7/11/84)

1. High Gear	24	8
2. Team #10	21	11
3. Late-Nite Rollers	21	11
4. Thing!!!	20½	11½
5. Carolina Gamecocks	20	12
6. Damaged Goods	20	12
7. 3 Budha's + 2	18	14

THURSDAY COMM. LEAGUE

(Week 9 of 16 - as of 7/12/84)

1. Pilsner	26	10
2. JP Stars & Strikes	23	13
3. "Pendulums"	22	14
4. Twin Peaks	20	16
5. Vagabond	20	16
6. Rick's Gold Room	17	19
7. Pendulum 1	15	21
8. Team #10	12	24
9. Team #5	12	24
10. Spare Parts	11	25

FRIDAY COMM. LEAGUE

(Week 7 of 16 - as of 7/13/84)

1. Stella's Starlettes	20	8
2. Team #1	18	10
3. Beach - Nuts	15	13
4. With Colour	13	15
5. Pin-Heads	12	16
6. Strange Interlude	6	22

Bowling scores compiled by Jerry R. De Young.

B.A.R. BAZAAR

BAY AREA REPORTER SUPPLEMENT X-RATED BAY AREA REPORTER SUPPLEMENT X-RATED BAY AREA REPORTER SUPPLEMENT X-RATED BAY AREA REPORTER SUPPLEMENT

We're All Prostitutes

The Hookers' Convention Convenes in the Media Spotlight From That Other One Across Town

by Ron Bluestein

The subject of prostitution tends to illuminate a society's social structure and cultural values. It can function as a kind of microscopic lens through which we gain a detailed magnification of a society's organization of class and gender.

— Ruth Rosen, *The Lost Sisterhood, Prostitution in America 1900-1918*

Wherever I heard the Hookers' Convention mentioned last week, whether at work in San Francisco's hotels and private clubs or among friends, a snicker seemed to be part of every listener's response, as if "bad girls" were a bad joke. My friend Arnie laughed when I told him about this article, yet later in the conversation — which was almost entirely a complaint against his employer — he said, "I work my ass off and what I want is some appreciation, the kind of appreciation I can put in my wallet." I pointed out to him that this was the same sentiment and the exact words I'd heard from the prostitutes, and that perhaps his dilemma was similar to theirs.

Before we join the hookers, let's examine Rosen's statement: How does prostitution project our feelings about women? The prostitute — not a prostitute, not a teenager selling herself on the Vegas strip or a woman who is not only a prostitute but someone's daughter and someone's mother — the prostitute is the stigmatized, fallen woman. She stands symbolically in opposition to the image of woman as chaste angel. By accepting both the sexual appetites of men and their commercialized world, where everything — not only material but time and body — is a commodity, she has rejected what some people still consider her place in the world. Society, in turn, rejects her. This is fully reflected by the fact that of the armies of women who have worked in the sex business, only a hundred were brave enough to "come out" and attend the Hookers Convention.

more expensive. I was reminded of Rosen's observation that the dress of prostitutes — fancy cosmetics, coiffures, and clothes, not to mention what my sister calls "whore heels" — has been assimilated by all women plying the marketplace of media and commerce.

After the taping, the women scattered throughout the theater/cafe. My old friend Scarlot Harlot (Carol Leigh) was there. We met in our poetic salad days when we were both readers of C.T. Hall's defunct but not forgotten poetry series called "Forever in the Hayes." The happy hooker, the tart with a heart, the heartless whore — Scarlot abandons all these images and confronts and confounds her audience simply by presenting herself, the prostitute/poetess.

"What's important is that the middle-class, college-educated

America; goodbye, Ronnetttte.

Delores French and Scarlot Harlot were typical of the women on the panel representing their profession. Coming from colleges and upper- and middle-class families, these women view prostitution not as a personal victimization, but as a position of political and economic strength. Aggressive and self-determined, they made it plain that prostitution was, if not the best of all choices, still a choice.

"I regard prostitution neither as the worst form of exploitation women have ever suffered, nor as a noble or liberating occupation," Rosen writes, "but rather as a dangerous and degrading occupation that, given the limited and unattractive alternatives, has ennobled thousands of women to escape even worse danger and deprivation." Delores was a little more succinct: "If I hadn't worked in the regular work force, I wouldn't appreciate what I have."

What Delores has — and what the job of prostitute brings into clear focus as the commodity of the marketplace — is her own person and her own time. Whether you are hauling crates as a longshoreman or moving the economy through the mails as a secretary, what you are bartering is your body and your time. Until you own both of these things, you are not free. Prostitution is hardly freedom — under cockeyed Capitalism only wealth is freedom — but freedom is also not what the typist or the waitress or the housewife achieves. None of the prostitutes on the panel work for a boss.

The press conference began. In the over-hot cavern of the Harrison Street Theatre, those with ears could hear mental gears shrieking as newsmen from the international media asked their questions and the working women fielded them. With a cuteness that glossed over an inability to take his assignment seriously, one reporter asked how many of the panel would join a Hookers for Mondale association. Many of the press laughed. Many of the prostitutes did not.

Another reporter asked what sort of coercion is used on the prostitute. Priscilla Alexander, head of the National Committee for Prostitutes' Rights and an ex-Bay Area Reporter writer,

(Continued on next page)

'What's important is that the middle-class college-educated people who come to see (me) realize that prostitutes are just like them.'

— Scarlot Harlot

"Lesbian women have been the troops of COYOTE from the beginning," Margo St. James, head of the organization, told me. COYOTE, by the way, stands for Call Off Your Old Tired Ethics. Prostitution is related not only to Gay women, but to all Gay people. A dissertation on sexual stigma is unnecessary. Let me simply remind you, as I was reminded in the kitchen at work tonight, that in Spanish a whore is a puta and a faggot is a puto.

The only part of the conference I attended was the press conference. The members of the press straggling in from their duties at that other convention just a block away at the Moscone Center were feted to the sight of St. James being interviewed by a local San Francisco news team. Behind her stood what I am sure will be called "a bevy of beauties" — local working women who were there to meet the press and, hopefully, the world. The woman reporter was indistinguishable from her fellow working women except that her Jane Fonda coif was

people who come to see Scarlot Harlot realize that prostitutes are just like them," she says.

But the moment was for roaming and, after all, it was a press conference, so Scarlot moved on. Chance and peripatetic brought me to Delores French. I introduced myself.

"Oh yes," Delores said, "I've heard of the Bay Area Guardian."

I corrected her. "The Bay Area Reporter. It's the largest Gay newspaper in town."

"Oh," Delores said, and what I perceived as a certain dampening of enthusiasm did not prevent her from giving me the Delores French Press Packet, identifying her as the President of HIRE (Hooking Is Real Employment) and owner of "Dare To Wear, A Subsidiary of Dare To Do It," which as far as I can tell coordinates whatever you dare to be with your clothes.

"Yes," Delores said to a woman who suddenly appeared by her side, "I definitely want to do the 'Good Morning America' show." Oh well, Good Morning



Margo St. James at the 1984 Gay Day parade. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

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1808 MARKET STREET

St-Barnard



BLACK LASHES

We Know Reno

KARL STEWART

Phil Ragsdale and his National Reno Gay Rodeo were the subject of a boycott and protest last weekend. As one approached the Reno Fairgrounds, one was met by pickets who heckled cars as they entered. The people were upset about something regarding cruelty to animals and professed an anti-capitalist sentiment.

The crowd of Rodeo goers were down by about half, too. A change of date that put the event in direct conflict with the opening of the Olympics in LA may have had much to do with it. Nevertheless, the San Franciscans poured into the hotels and casinos.

The Coits were host to 80 or so revelers who tramped to the high desert community in two slick Hyway Tours buses. It was difficult to imagine 100 screamers carrying on in as sedate a middle-class establishment as the Pioneer Hotel. But they did, and no one even looked sideways. Saturday evening was centered firmly around the Coits' cocktail party, which saw CMC navigator David Sarathain holding court buck naked in the hot tub located directly in the center of the host suite. Tommy Turner and the Coit leadership awarded Connie Cadaver and several others

birthday dolls. Of course the Coits' hospitality always includes food, in this case a huge buffet.

The Sands acted as host hotel and was the site of a party with Rose Maddox as the featured performer. Linda Lane and Western Electric provided good country two-steppin' music, and Harrah's Bottom Revue created an illusion with drag queens doing celebs.

Did you know that our own Ron Brewer, bartender extraordinaire of the Pilsner Inn was the co-ordinator of this year's Reno Rodeo Country Dance Fest?

The Ex-baby trooper Dennis Case has roped a Texan by the name of Dennis who commuted between Houston and The City, and has some "Big charms."

It was the GG Trooper out there on the Eagle Patio celebrating another anniversary with a feast that even dazzled the most skeptical guest. John Clifton is a fine restaurateur.

La's Rowdy MC, Satyrs, held sway on the Patio the next day. The Barbary Coasters will lead the way to frolic at its run this weekend outside of Sonora. Tara Tara Tara will be a form of respite for the Grand Ducal candidates. For 60 bucks you



The Satyrs holding a bull session at the Eagle Patio Beer Bust last Sunday in honor of its bike run, Badger Flats. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

can bask in the sun, eat three square meals, and drink from a 24-hour open bar. The BC's run site is one of the loveliest on the circuit.

The Empire City MC of The Big Apple is celebrating 20 years this year. If you happen to be headed for the east in mid August, join its Tour from August 22 through September 5. It's a two-week tour of the East Coast, with major stops in Washington, D.C. where the club will meet up with Spartan MC for its run. Write for details to 20th Anniversary Committee, EC MC, P.O. Box 2543, G.P.O., NYC, NY 10116.

Another East Coast club, Leathermen/Atlanta is mounting Kudzu 1 over the labor day weekend August 31 through September 3 for a nice round \$85. Write for reservations to L/A Kudzu 1, P.O. Box 8595, Atlanta, GA 30306, Attn: RAC, (or call (404) 624-3664.

Well, well, Mr. J. C. Corbett has landed on the rack at The Ramrod. He began yesterday, hosting the Ramrod's All Candidates Night for the Grand Ducks. He's serving up your favorites Thursday through Sunday in the PMs.

Friday, another So/M institution will be moving into new quarters. The Watering Hole is headed, lock, stock, and beer barrel to The Globe Hotel on Folsom, between Seventh and Eighth Streets on Friday, July 27. Bob Marrel and Bryan Todd will host a private party for friends of the Watering Hole. Saturday and Sunday will open the new place officially. It's about a third again bigger and very western. We'll miss the fireplace, though. Did you know that Bryan Todd is the longest surviving manager to work continuously in one establishment?

The AUA's Bay Area Brigade will host Sunday's beer bust at the Eagle. Six dollars will bring beer, soda, and food. Uniform Men at Work is the theme, and uniforms are encouraged.

Looking forward to Chaps First Anniversary Wednesday, August 8, which will be surrounded by parties from Monday, August 6 right through the weekend. Stay tuned.

GRAND DUCALS

The Grand Ducal race brings a frenzy of partying and campaigning. Sandra Sorrels kicked things off at The 222 Club,

and Leonard used that facility as well as the Black Rose. Michael Bowman kicked off Saturday at noon with open draft and BBQ at the Village, and The Men's Room was the venue for Trixie Trash's party later that day. Voting will be August 11 at Hibernia Beach and at Kimo's.

Sunday, July 29, you can help send the Kokfighters to a Labor Day weekend softball tourney in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Begins at 4 p.m. with an auction and raffle at 7 p.m. as well as the buffet, all at the Kokpit. Also Sunday, if you happen to be in Pomona, CA, the Mr. Gay CA Pageant will be held at Robbie's, 390 College Plaza. Call (714) 662-9511 for more info.

The Gay Soft ball League is offering big prizes to the winners of this year's Switch Hitters Ball, August 4 at 7 p.m. at the Cal Club. Admission is \$10 at the door, and Mark and the men are offering no host libation.

Be sure and stop by the photography of Joe Altman at Moby Dick. Joe is an incredible talent. He manages to capture the best in all his subjects.

See ya' in the skins. ■



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Hookers' Convention

(Continued from previous page)

answered pithily: "The economic coercion." She was echoing an older writer, Rose Schneiderman, who wrote in *The Industrial Woman's Need of the Vote* that "These same men who tell us we are angels send vice commissioners to investigate why girls go wrong. I should think a glance at the payroll would give them the answer." Delores French had the last word.

"Working," she said, "was interfering with my making money."

One man took the mike and asked if it weren't true that the panelists were guilty of glamorizing a degrading means of employment. Delores Jean, an ex-traffic cop from L.A., who "decided to go into an honest profession," answered that if having sex, doing a nurturing and caring job for another person, was degrading, then the world is upside down. I thought of the great psychiatrist Wilhelm Stekel who, bemoaning the biases and naivete of his fellow physicians, wrote that "in sexual matters to this day unprejudiced lay persons and experienced prostitutes are capable of properly instructing many a

young disciple of Esculapius."

The victimization of prostitutes is not a function of the trade, but of the laws that criminalize a prostitute. Prostitution,

'Working was interfering with my making money.'

— Delores French

Margo pointed out to me, is the only offense that requires mandatory time on the first arrest with no complaining witnesses other than the arresting officer. Other crimes are defined by the presence of a victim. Rosen points out that when the brothels were closed by the red light abatement law, the power and money of the sex business changed hands from women to men.

On the street, the prostitute ping-pongs between the pimp and the police. It is Black and minority women who pay the price: more of them go to jail on prostitution charges than other groups of women, even though,

if Margo's figures are correct, there are one million practicing and nine million retired prostitutes presently in the U.S. I asked the panel what business profited indirectly from prostitution.

"Hotels, cabbies, credit card companies, all of you (meaning the press)," Priscilla Alexander said, "the Yellow Pages, police, lawyers, men as a class, doctors, grocery stores, druggists..." The list went on.

One has simply to look at the *Message* column of the San Francisco dailies, or the pages and pages of ads in the Berkeley-based *Spectator*, to realize that the number of prostitutes in the Bay Area is legion. A glance at the back of the very paper you're reading will make you realize that all prostitutes are not women. According to Edwin Clark Johnson (*In Search of God in the Sexual Underworld, A Mystical Journey*), many of us have augmented our incomes in casual prostitution. I have, and if I had the assets—a handsome face, big muscles, big dick—to command more money, maybe I'd still be in the business. Like Scarlot Harlot, I learned a lot about people, but in the end, as Margo St. James says, "I couldn't service hypocrites, so I quit." ■

Switch and Bait

DICK WALTERS

It's here again, the very popular Switch Hitters Ball, on Saturday, August 4, at the California Club at Clay and Polk Streets. It starts promptly at 7 p.m., and tickets are only available at the door for \$10, with half of the evening's proceeds being donated to the Shanti Project. No-host bar. Don't miss this hilarious event, as the one and only John David, if sober, will be in drag to entertain you.

Memo to DeDe of Ginger's: Did Woody hide your makeup so you couldn't meet Don Rogers and Big Bird at the Tavern Guild meeting at the Pendulum?

At long last, Bonnie is back from Sacramento and is now cutting hair at Stan's (formerly Sally's) at Polk and Sacramento Streets. For an appointment call 441-1414. Nice to have you back in the neighborhood, Sally.

Paul Ruehl of Gilmore's claims I am so Gay that I lisp when I walk. I'll get you for that one, girl.

On Sunday, August 12, Little Mother and Ed Paulson are presenting an Auction for AIDS and KS at the Renegade Dance Bar at 1548 Polk Street starting at 4 p.m. If you have any items that you want to donate, take them to the Renegade. Remember, this is a most worthwhile auction, so don't miss it.

Our favorite Yellow Cab dispatcher, Bob Plummer, passed away last week and will be missed by a lot of friends, especially those at Ginger's.

This Sunday at 4 p.m. The Kokpit at 301 Turk Street is having a special auction to send The Kokfighters softball team to Tulsa, Oklahoma, for the Labor Day weekend. There will be a buffet, if Bubbles shows up to make it, and a cash raffle drawing at 7 p.m., so get out and enjoy this event; right, Kenny Allison and Helen Trent?

Well, they have extended the run of La Cage aux Folles and have the great Gene Barry doing his original award-winning role as he did it on Broadway. Don't miss this fabulous show.

One more weekend of softball and then the playoffs to see who will be the city champs. I must say you did a good job with the Goochie's team, Cha Cha. They are a nice bunch of guys, even Paul Ruehl.

The Galleon on 14th Street now has a Friday and Saturday night Sing-Along with Vivian Grant on the keyboard. If you haven't had dinner there lately, do try it, as the menu is very diversified and extremely delicious. Hi, John.

The White Swallow has a bus available for the trip to the Tavern Guild Picnic. If you are interested, contact them at 775-4152. It is a pleasant way to go, and you don't have to worry about driving. This promises to be a great 20th Anniversary TG Picnic.

Mark Friese's Bar Wars event on Polk Street raised \$2,300 for the Godfather Fund of Ward 5B. You all did a great job on this event, especially the New Bell's customers. ■



Rink on Parade

Harvey Milk commissioned Rink, through the 1974 Parade Committee, to display contact prints of the Gay Day parade and celebration in the window of

his Castro Street camera store. Now, a decade later, Rink is exhibiting 1984 Parade contact prints in the windows of Orphan Andy's Restaurant, 3991 17th

St., at Market and Castro. Blow-ups of some of the most exciting moments of the event are on display inside Orphan Andy's. ■



Screamers. Naked Brunchers Sylvana Nova (L.), Miss X, Tommy Pace, and Cricket, at the moment they find out they are all really JFK's sisters. Naked Brunch IV - The Final Episode will be at the 181 Club through this weekend. (Photo: Rink)

Scenes from the Planet Mary



(Photo: Rink)



(Photo: Rink)

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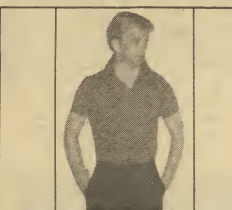
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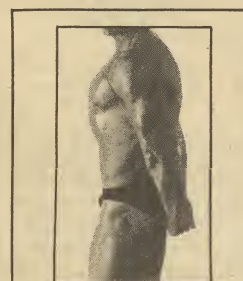
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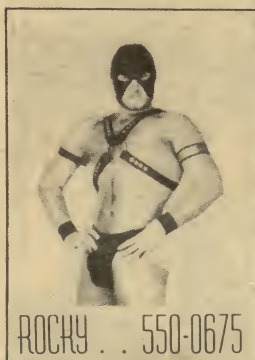
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